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New York Mets 1987 Yearbook

REVISED EDITION

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New York Mets 1987 Yearbook

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BASEBALL LIKE IT OUGHTA BE.
ROYAL CROWN COLA
RC
Mets
1986
WORLD CHAMPS
Some People Go out of Their Way for the Taste of RC

1987 OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		7* PITT 1:35 TV	8	9* PITT 1:35 S	10 ATL 7:35 TV	11* ATL 3:20
12* ATL 1:35 TV	13	14 PHIL 7:35 TV	15 PHIL 7:35 S	16 PHIL 7:35 S	17 ST L 8:35 TV	18 ST L 8:05 S
19 ST L 2:15 TV	20 PITT 7:05 S	21 PITT 7:05 TV	22 PITT 7:05 S	23	24 ST L 7:35 TV	25 ST L 1:35 S
26* ST L 1:35 TV	27 HOU 7:35 S	28 HOU 7:35 TV	29 HOU 7:35 S	30 MON 7:35 S		

MAY

					1 MON 7:35 TV	2* MON 1:20
3 MON 1:35 TV	4	5 CIN 7:35 S	6 CIN 7:35 S	7 Boston (AL) 7:05	8 ATL 7:40 TV	9 ATL 2:20
10 ATL 2:10 TV	11 CIN 7:35 S	12 CIN 7:35 S	13 HOU 8:35 TV	14 HOU 8:35 TV	15 SF 7:35 S	16* SF 7:05 S
17* SF 1:35 TV	18 SD 7:35 S	19 SD 7:35 TV	20 SD 7:35 S	21	22 LA 7:35 TV	23* LA 2:20
24 LA 1:35 TV	25 H SF 4:05 S	26 SF 10:35 S	27 SF 4:05 S	28	29 SD 10:05 TV	30 SD 10:05 TV
31 SD 4:05 TV						

JUNE

	1 LA 8:05	2 LA 10:35 S	3 LA 10:35 TV	4	5 PITT 7:35 TV	6* PITT 1:35 S
••7* PITT 1:05 TV	8 CHI 4:05 S	9 CHI 2:20 S	10 CHI 2:20 TV	11 Tidewater 7:05	12 PITT 7:35 S	13 PITT 7:05 TV
14 PITT 1:35 TV	15 MON 7:35 S	16 MON 7:35 TV	17 MON 7:05 S	18 MON 7:35 S	19 PHIL 7:35 S	20* PHIL 7:05 S
21* PHIL 1:35 TV	22	23 CHI 7:35 S	24 CHI 7:35 S	25 SC CHI 1:35 TV	26 PHIL 7:35 TV	27 PHIL 3:20
28 PHIL 1:35 TV	29 ST L 7:35 S	30 ST L 7:35 S				

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 ST L 7:35 TV	2 CIN 7:35 S	3 CIN 7:35 TV	4 H CIN 7:05 TV
5 CIN 2:15 TV	6 ATL 7:40 S	7 ATL 7:40 S	8 ATL 7:40 S	9 HOU 8:35 S	10 HOU 8:35	11 HOU 1:50
12 HOU 2:35 TV	13	14 All Star Game OAK	15	16 CIN 7:35 S	17 CIN 7:35 S	18 CIN 7:05 TV
19* CIN 1:35 TV	20 ATL 7:35 S	21* ATL 7:35 TV	22 SC ATL 1:35 TV	23	24 HOU 7:35 TV	25 HOU 1:35 S
26* HOU 1:35 TV	27	28 ST L 8:35 S	29 ST L 8:35 TV	30 ST L 8:35 TV	31 MON 7:35 S	

AUGUST

						1 MON 7:35 TV
2 MON 1:35 TV	3* PHIL 7:35 S	4 PHIL 7:35 S	5 PHIL 7:35 S	6 CHI 7:35 S	7 CHI 7:35 TV	8 CHI 7:05 TV
9* CHI 1:35 TV	10 MON 7:35 S	11 MON 7:35 S	12 SC MON 1:35 TV	13 CHI 4:05 S	14 CHI 4:05 TV	15 CHI 2:20
16 CHI 2:20 TV	17	18 SF 7:35 S	19* SF 7:35 S	20 SC SF 1:35 TV	21 SD 7:35 S	22 SD 7:05 TV
23 SD 1:35 TV	24 LA 7:35 S	25 LA 7:35 TV	26 LA 7:35 S	27	28 SF 10:35 TV	29 SF 4:05 S
30 SF 4:05 TV	31 SD 10:05 S					

SEPTEMBER

		1 SD 10:05 S	2 SD 10:05 S	3	4 LA 10:35 S	5 LA 10:05 TV
6 LA 4:05 TV	7* H PHIL 7:35 TV	8 PHIL 7:35 TV	9 PHIL 7:35 S	10	11 ST L 7:35 TV	12 ST L 2:20
13 ST L 1:35 TV	14 CHI 7:35 S	15 CHI 7:35 TV	16 MON 7:05 S	17 MON 7:35 S	18 PITT 7:35 S	19 PITT 7:05 TV
20 PITT 1:35 TV	21 CHI 2:20 S	22 CHI 2:20 S	23 MON 7:35 S	24 MON 7:35 S	25 PITT 7:35 TV	26* PITT 1:35 S
27* PITT 1:35 TV	28 PHIL 7:35 S	29 PHIL 7:35	30 PHIL 7:35			

OCTOBER

				1	2 ST L 8:35 TV	3 ST L 2:15 S
4 ST L 2:15 TV						

*1987 PROMOTION DATES

Opening Day	Tuesday, April 7	Emerson Banner Day	Sunday, June 7
Sony Tape World Champs Key Chain Day (E) (Opening Day II)	Thursday, April 9	Kahn's Meats Kids Jersey Night (K)	Saturday, June 20
Snapper Calendar Weekend (E)	Saturday & Sunday, April 11 & 12	Ivory Soap Father's Day Shaving Kit (M)	Sunday, June 21
Tropicana Orange Juice Championship Ring Day (K)	Sunday, April 26	Starter Wristband Day (K)	Sunday, July 19
Top Job Batting Helmet Day (K)	Saturday, May 2	Kinney Shoes Sock Night (E)	Tuesday, July 21
Nestle Crunch & Raisinets Baseball Glove Night (K)	Saturday, May 16	Crazy Eddie Rally Cap Day (E)	Sunday, July 26
Sweet 'N Low Ladies Tote Bag Day (L)	Sunday, May 17	RC Cola Sports Bag Night (E)	Monday, August 3
Equitable Oldtimers' Day	Saturday, May 23	Met Life Mets Jersey Day (A)	Sunday, August 9
Gatorade World Champs Baseball Cap Day (E)	Saturday, June 6	Snapper Sports Watch Night (E)	Wednesday, August 19
		NYNEX Yellow Pages Fireworks Night	Monday, September 7
		Fan Appreciation Weekend	Saturday & Sunday, September 26 & 27 Sunday, September 27
		Purolator Courier Cooler Bag Day (E)	

(E) - Everyone (K) - Kids 14 and under (A) - Adults 15 and over
(L) - Ladies 15 and over (M) - Men 15 and over

(Promotion Dates subject to change.)

HOME AWAY

•• Doubleheader
H Holiday
SC Senior Citizen's Day
• Promotion Date

TV WOR Channel 9 (subject to change)
S Sportschannel (subject to change)

All home and away games are New York time.
All games on WHN (1050 AM) Radio

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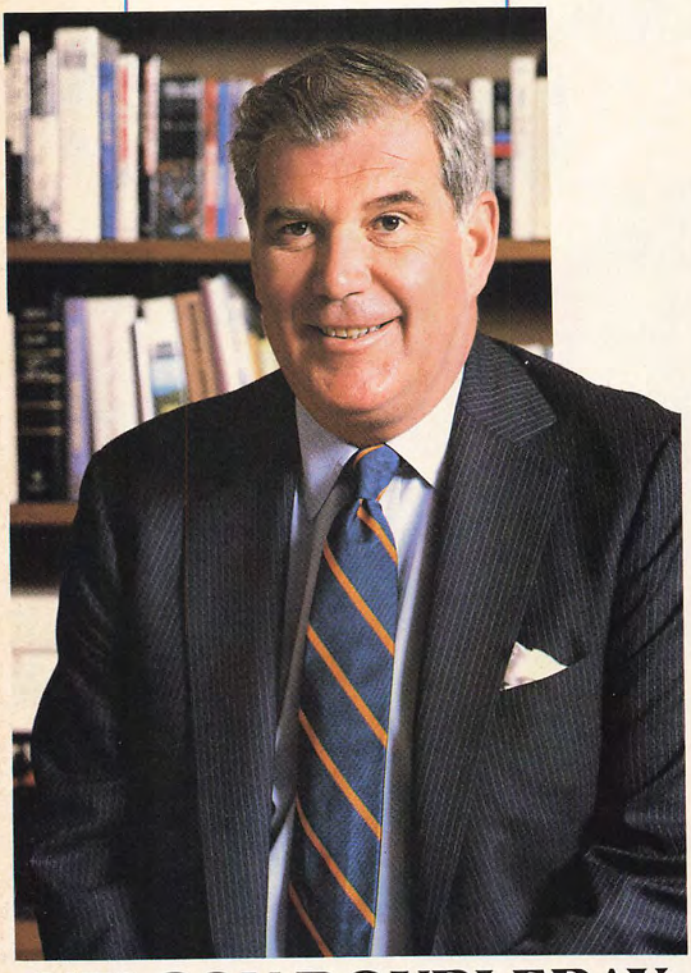
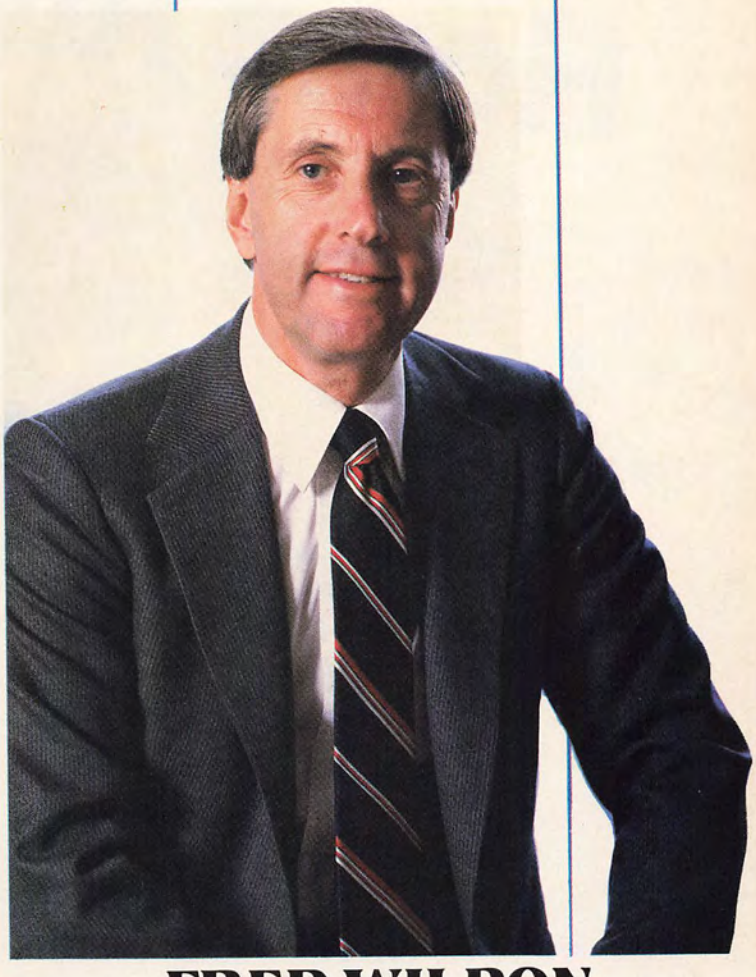


NELSON DOUBLEDAY

Chairman of the Board



FRED WILPON

President & Chief Executive Officer

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Kahn's

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Vice President,
Operations

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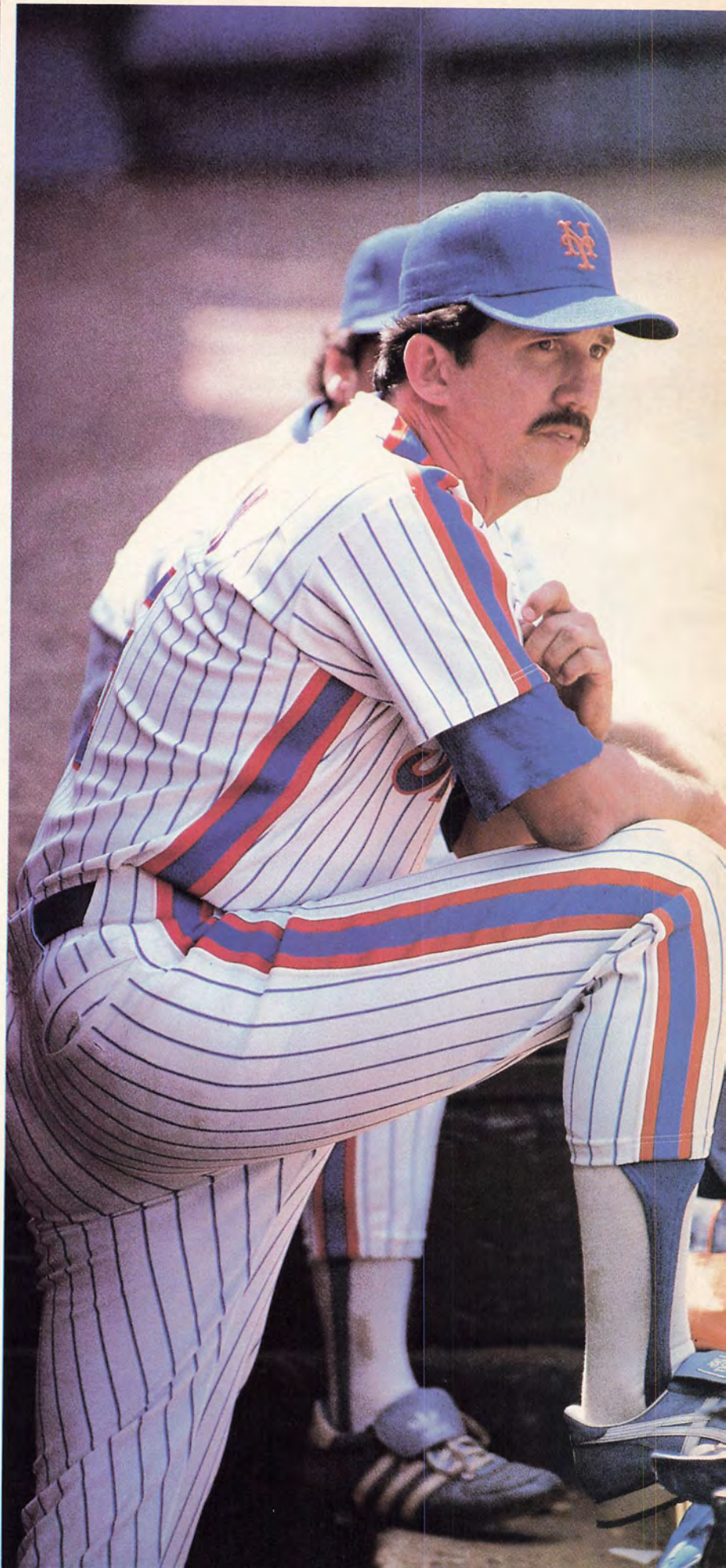
Vice President,
Treasurer

5
DAVEY JOHNSON

"I just love the game. I don't know if I'm going to be managing ten years from now. I'm not the kind of person who plans that far in advance. But I get a great deal of pleasure out of managing. On a year-to-year basis, I think I've accomplished what I wanted here."



THE COACHING STAFF

28
BILL ROBINSON

"What makes our lineup so imposing is that we can strike in so many ways. We can win a game 1-0 or 2-1 on a bunt, stolen base and a hit-and-run single, or we can slug it out with you. It really helps to have so many weapons."

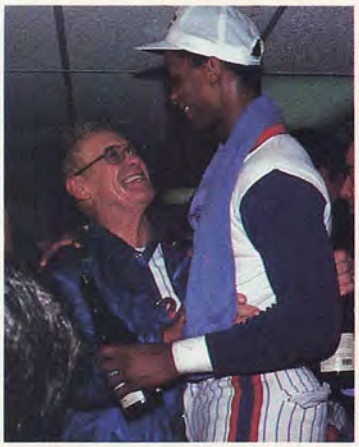
30
MEL STOTTLEMYRE

"Last spring I made a prediction that I thought we could win the division if our five starters won 75 games among them. Well, I was over by one, because they won 76. It's scary in a way, but there's no doubt in my mind that we have the kind of a staff that's just going to get better and better."

34
SAM PERLOZZO

"I knew I was in a organization that promoted from within, whether it be players or managers. That's important because it gives you hope that if you do your job properly, there's a chance to move up. I was fortunate enough to have had plenty of talented players the last few years and we won some championships, and the people in New York were kind enough to notice."

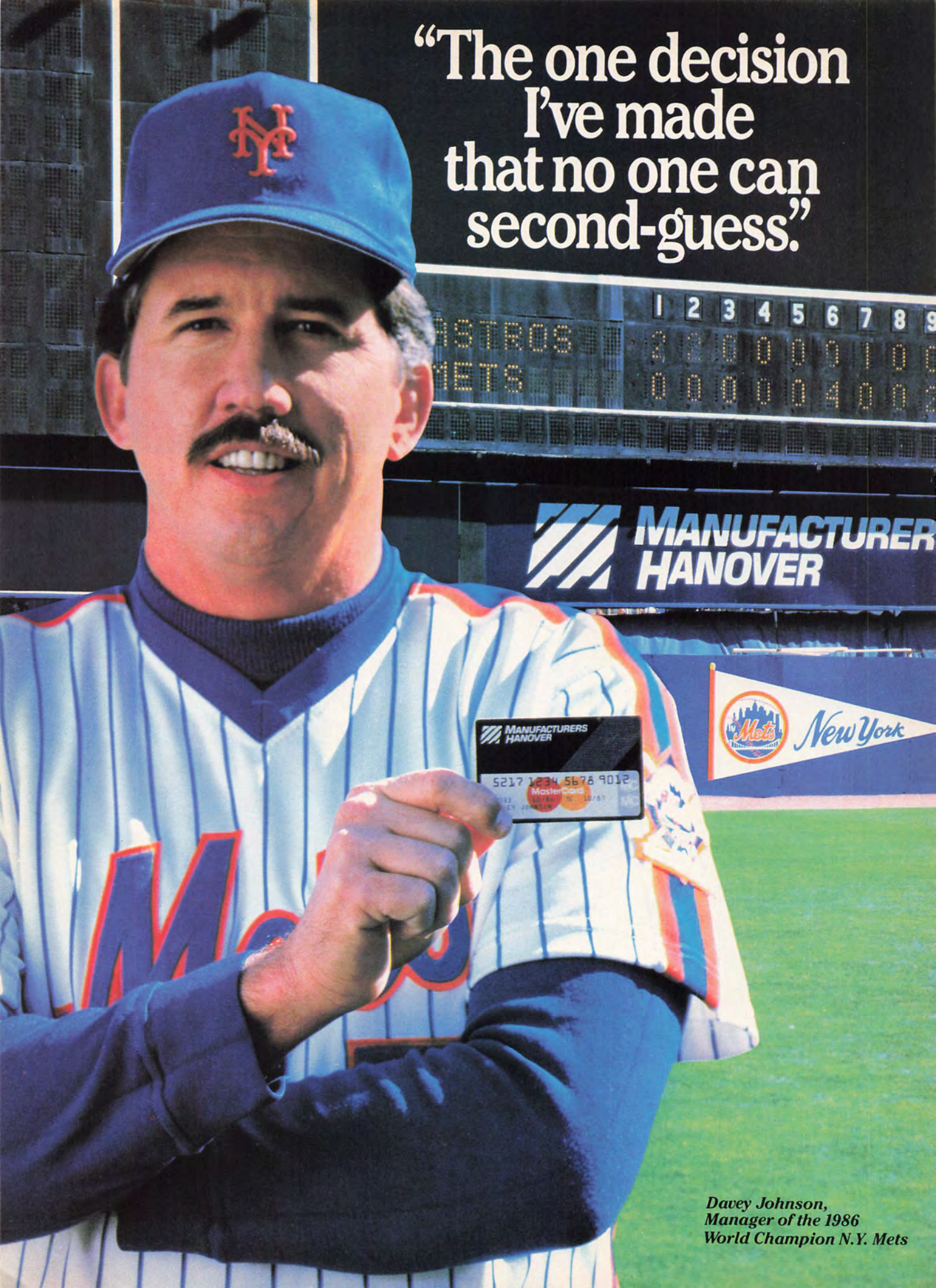
51
VERN HOSCHEIT



"Bus is in 10 minutes! Be on it or be under it!"

23
BUD HARRELSON

"Of course, nothing will ever replace 1969. We were the underdogs, the people's team that had risen from the ashes. But now I'm an '87er, not a '69er."


"The one decision I've made that no one can second-guess."
MANUFACTURER HANOVER
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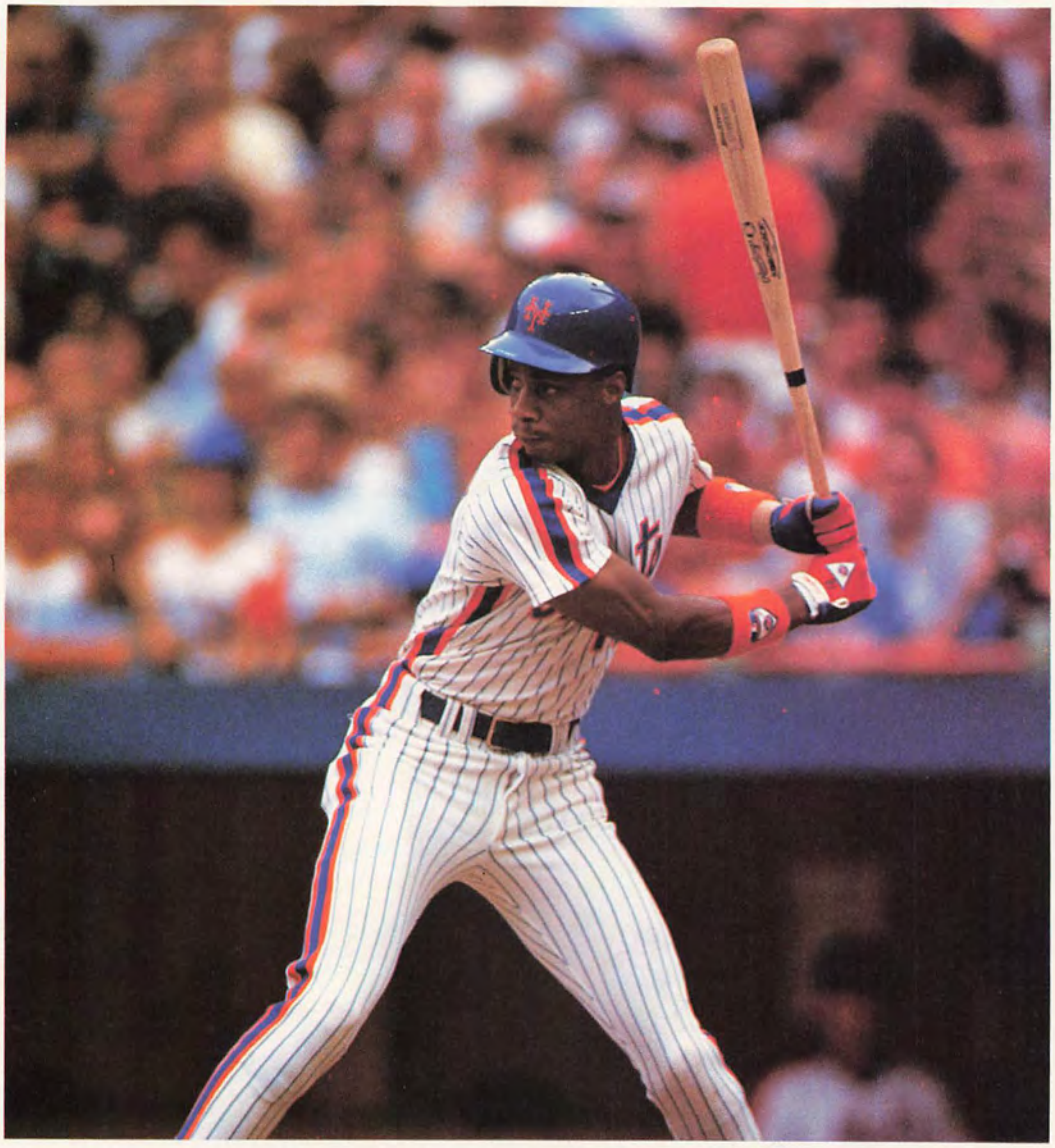
5217 1234 5678 9012
New York
Davey Johnson, Manager of the 1986 World Champion N.Y. Mets

MEET THE WORLD CHAMPS

18

DARRYL STRAWBERRY



"Going through so many experiences, you have to grow up fast. I look at myself now, and I'm really not pressuring myself. I'm just out there playing and having fun. Those are the good things you learn about yourself."

18

15

RICK AGUILERA

"Having that dry spell last year wasn't any fun, but it did me nothing but good. I learned a lot about pitching. To go through that, to be so close to being sent down, it builds a little confidence to be able to come back. Now I just feel very relaxed out there."

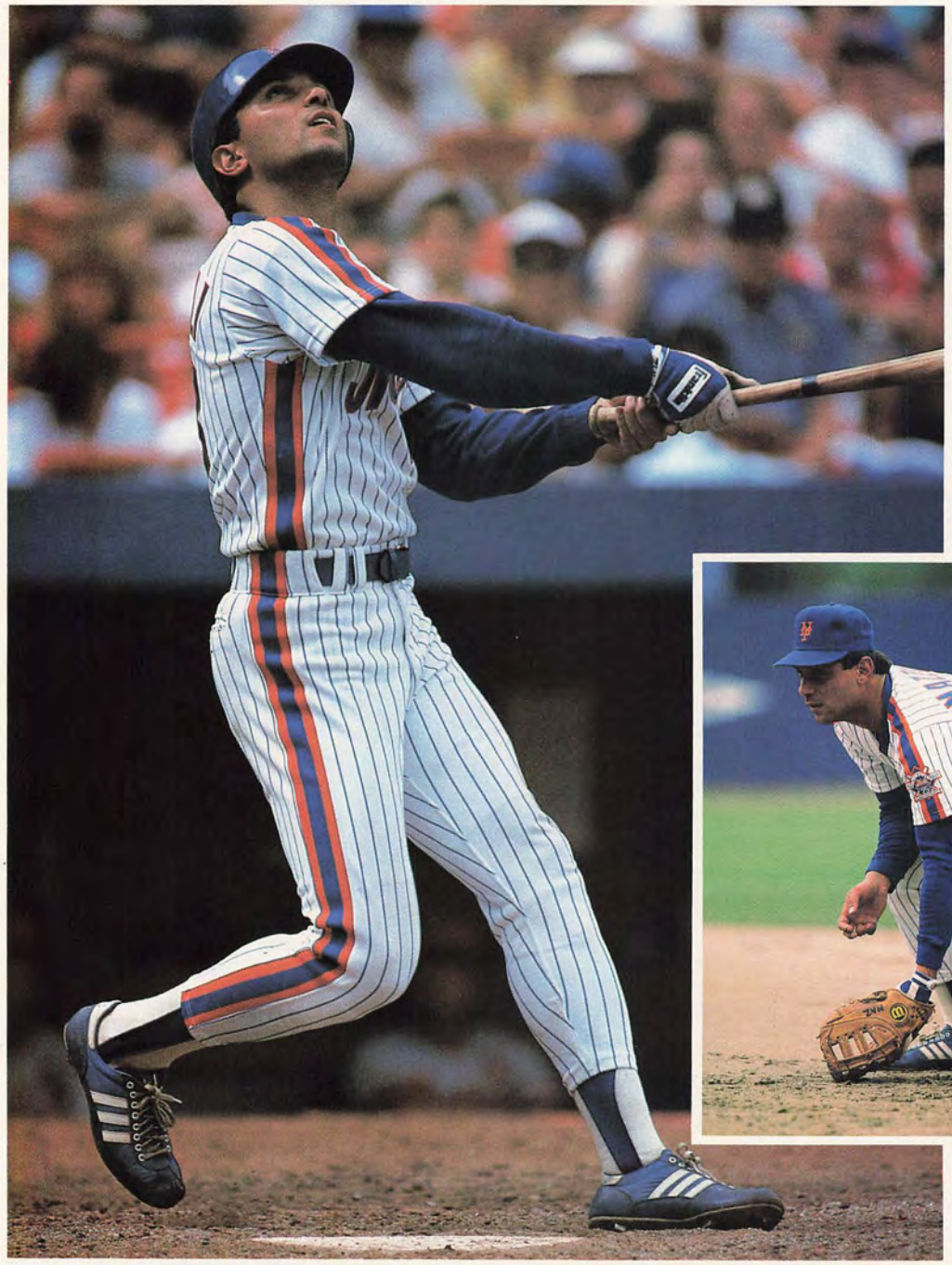
20

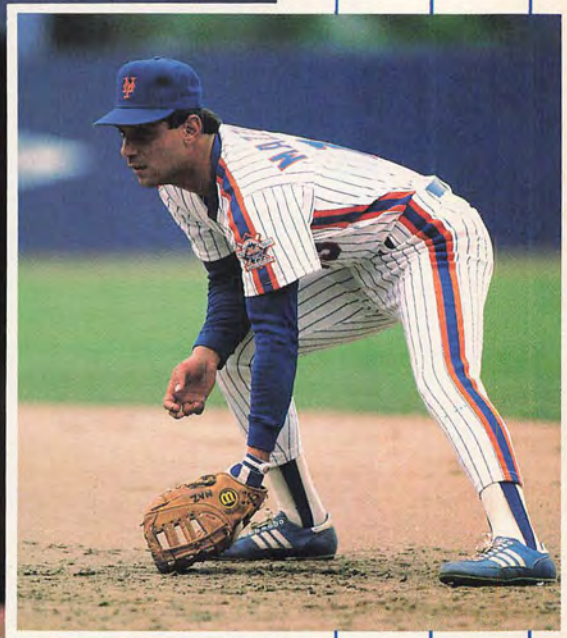
HOWARD JOHNSON

"I know what it's like to win a World Series in both leagues. Not too many other guys get a chance to do that. I want to help out here so bad. I love New York. I want to stay here. I want to show people that. And right now, I feel great."

13

LEE MAZZILLI





"I grew up in this organization and became a man here. It's been a Cinderella story for me. Now I'm wearing the glass slipper."

THIS SUMMER, THE EQUITABLE IS GIVING OVER 1,000 RETIREES THEIR OLD JOBS BACK.

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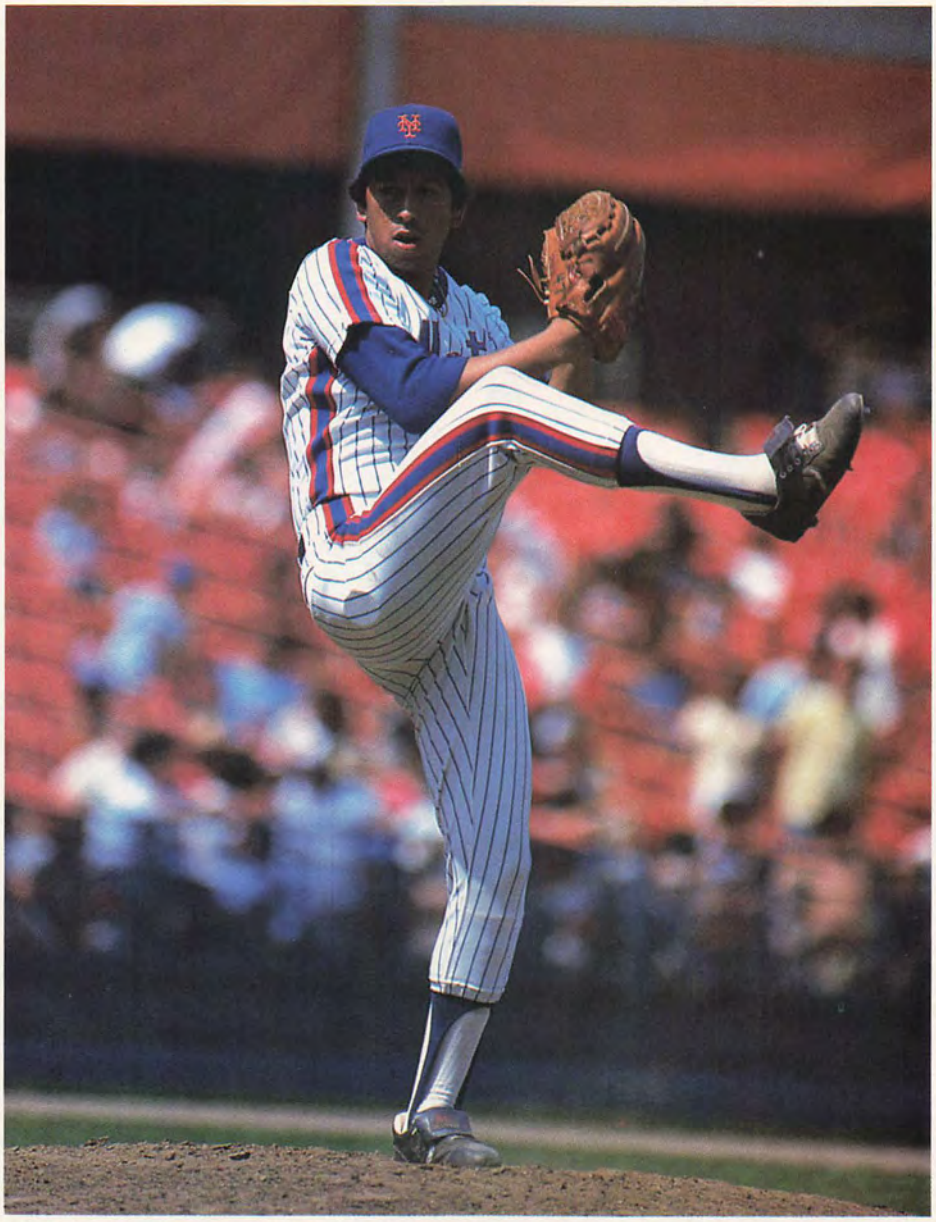
RIGO
7

47

JESSE OROSCO



"I told myself, 'You have the ball. You have the power. Don't let these guys down.' " — October 15, 1986.

1

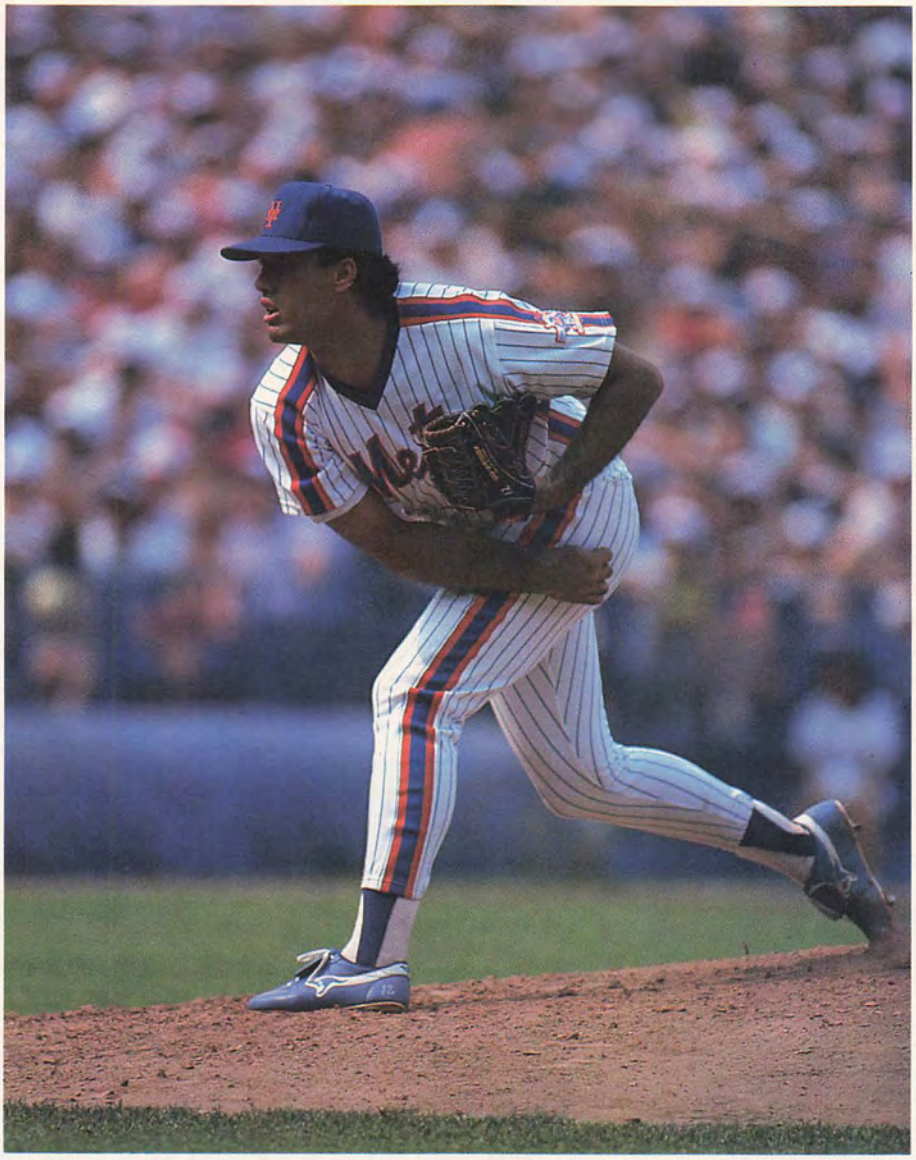
MOOKIE WILSON

"I've gotten drawings from kids after my first week or two in the major leagues. I've always gotten drawings. Sometimes it's hard for kids to relate to adults. I try not to be that way. If a kid writes a letter to me and asks for an autograph, I feel obligated to try and answer it."

Mets
12

12

RON DARLING



"I can have great satisfaction doing what I'm doing. In my heart, I know that I can be a pitcher who wins 10 more games than he loses every season, and I think I'm improving every facet of my game. There's no reason why I can't be a 20-game winner."

3

RAFAEL SANTANA

"I learned everything is mental. You can not bring to the ballpark whatever you did yesterday. If I fouled up yesterday, I can't let it bother me today. After an error, I hope the next guy hits to me. I want the ball. I want the ball."

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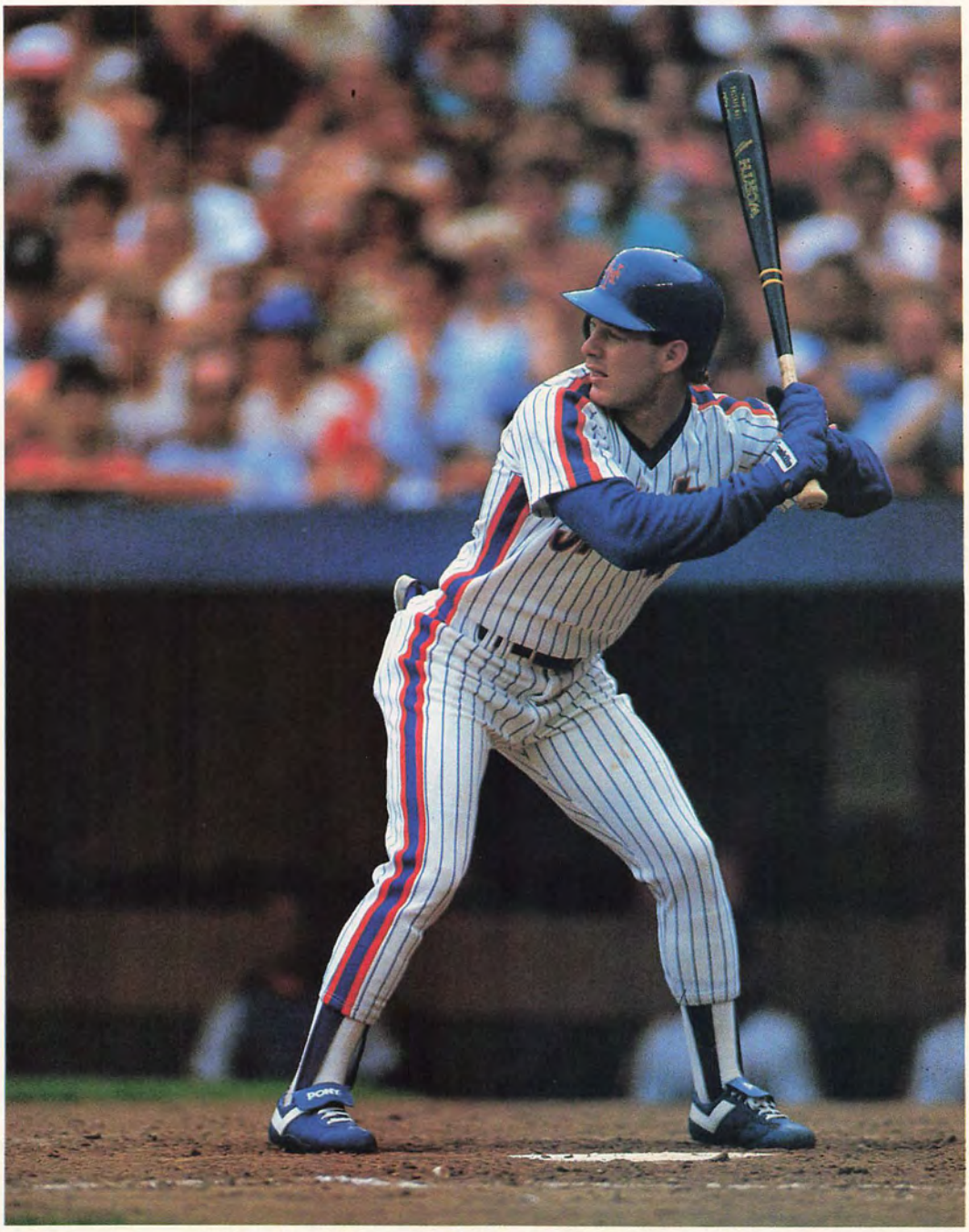
4

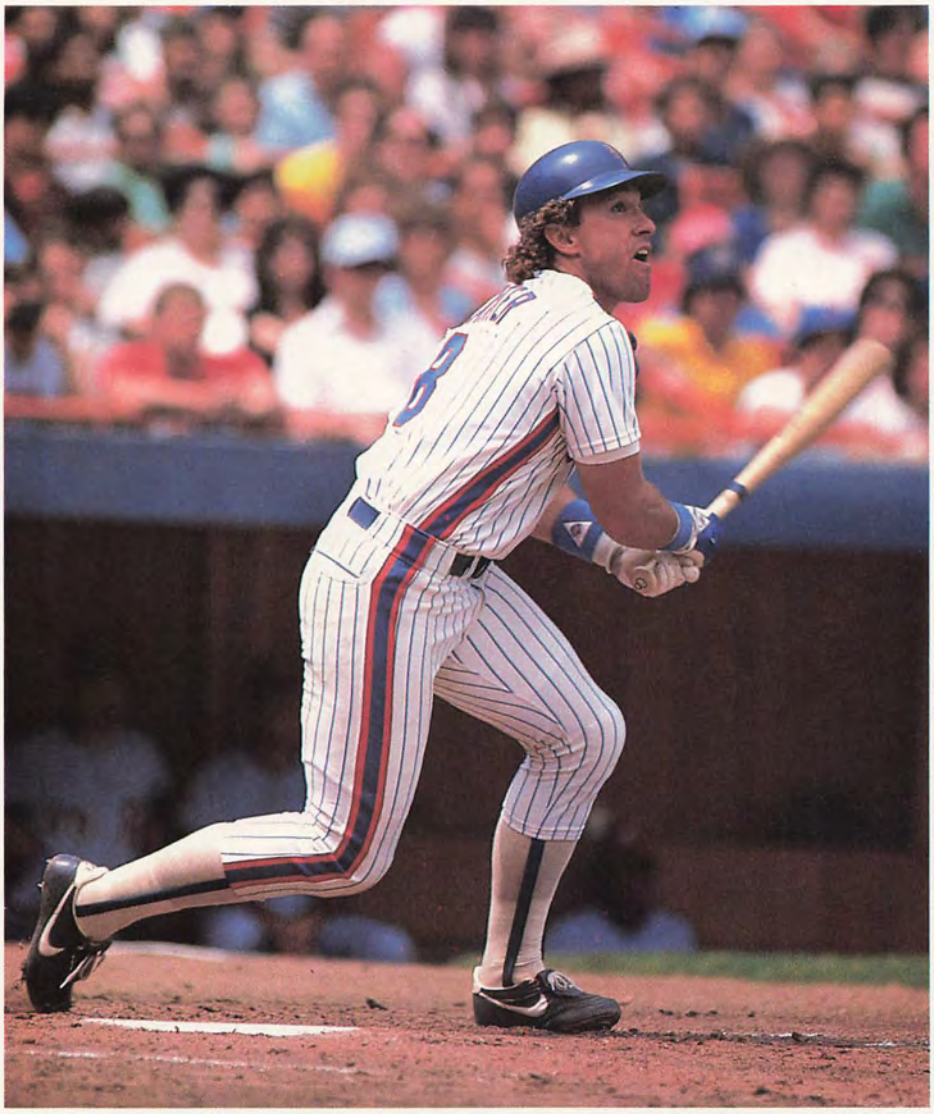
LENNY DYKSTRA



"If I don't get down and dirty, I'm not playing right."

8

GARY CARTER



"The dream sunk in when I celebrated privately with my family in the days following the Series. I felt so privileged to be a part of that excitement after all those years of watching and hoping. But what winning also does to you is make you want to go back and do it again."

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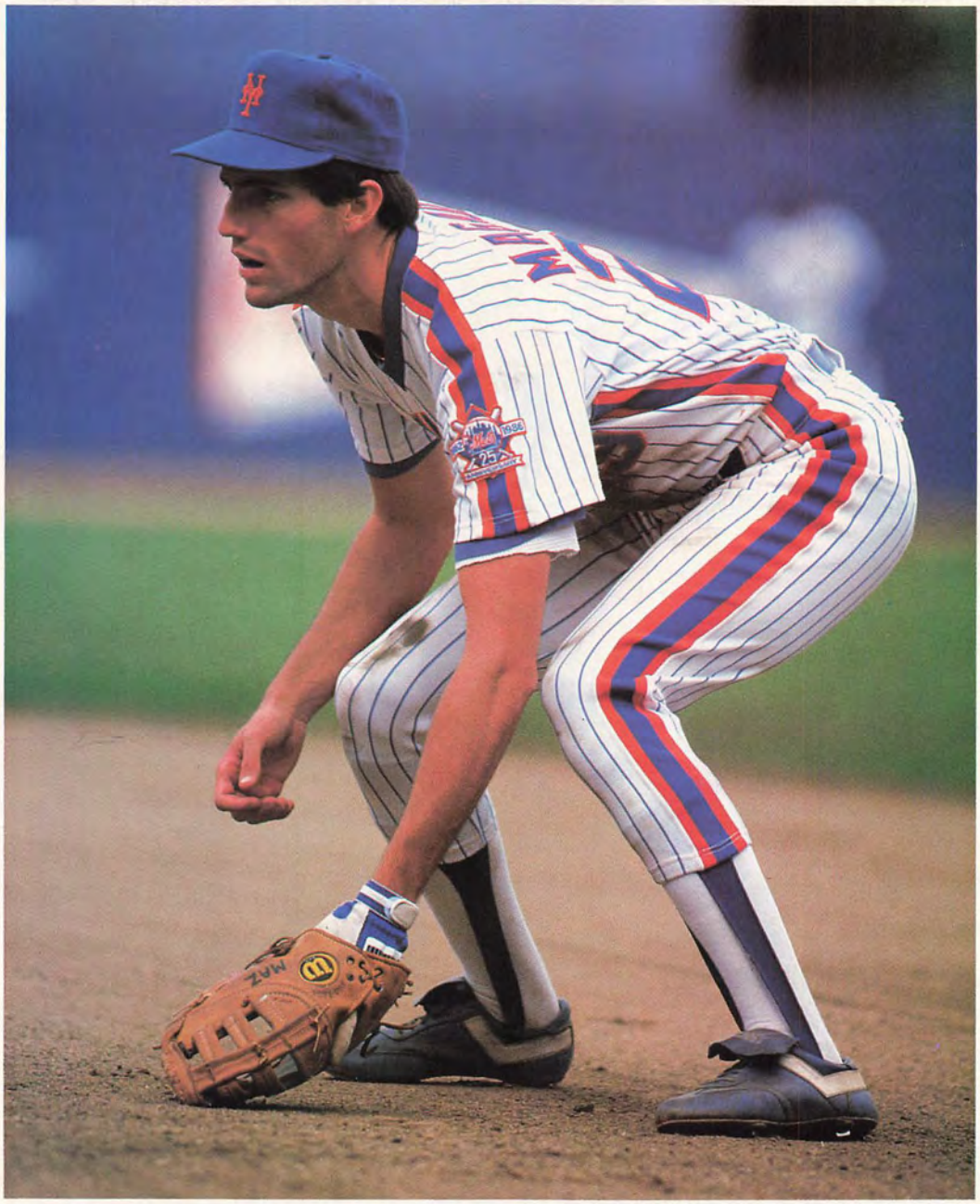
FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, THERE'S JUST NO EQUAL.

29

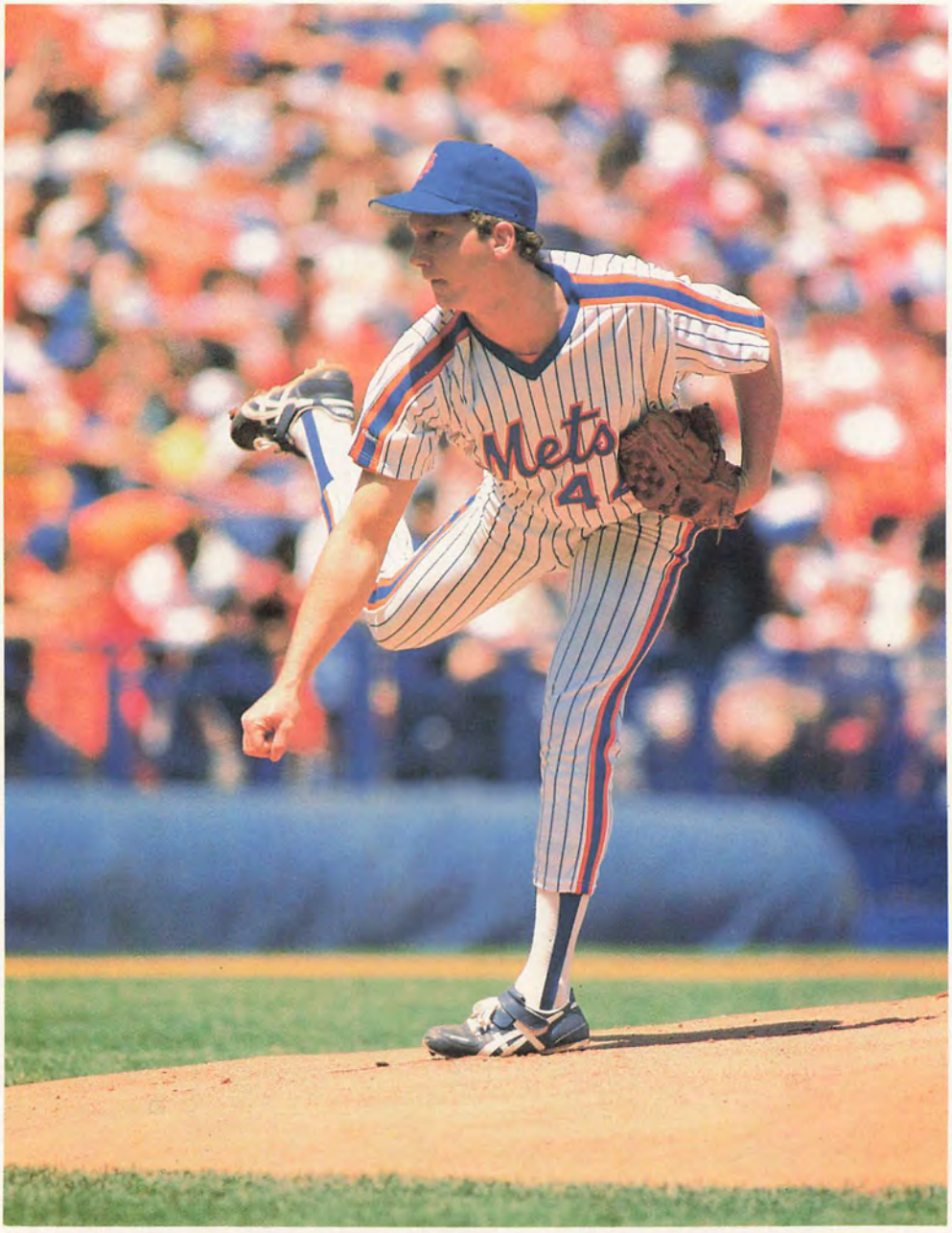
DAVE MAGADAN



"When we rookies all got up here, we felt like outsiders. Not that the guys made us feel that way. It's just that we haven't played all year and it's only natural to feel like that. Tonight made me feel like part of the team." — September 17, 1986

44

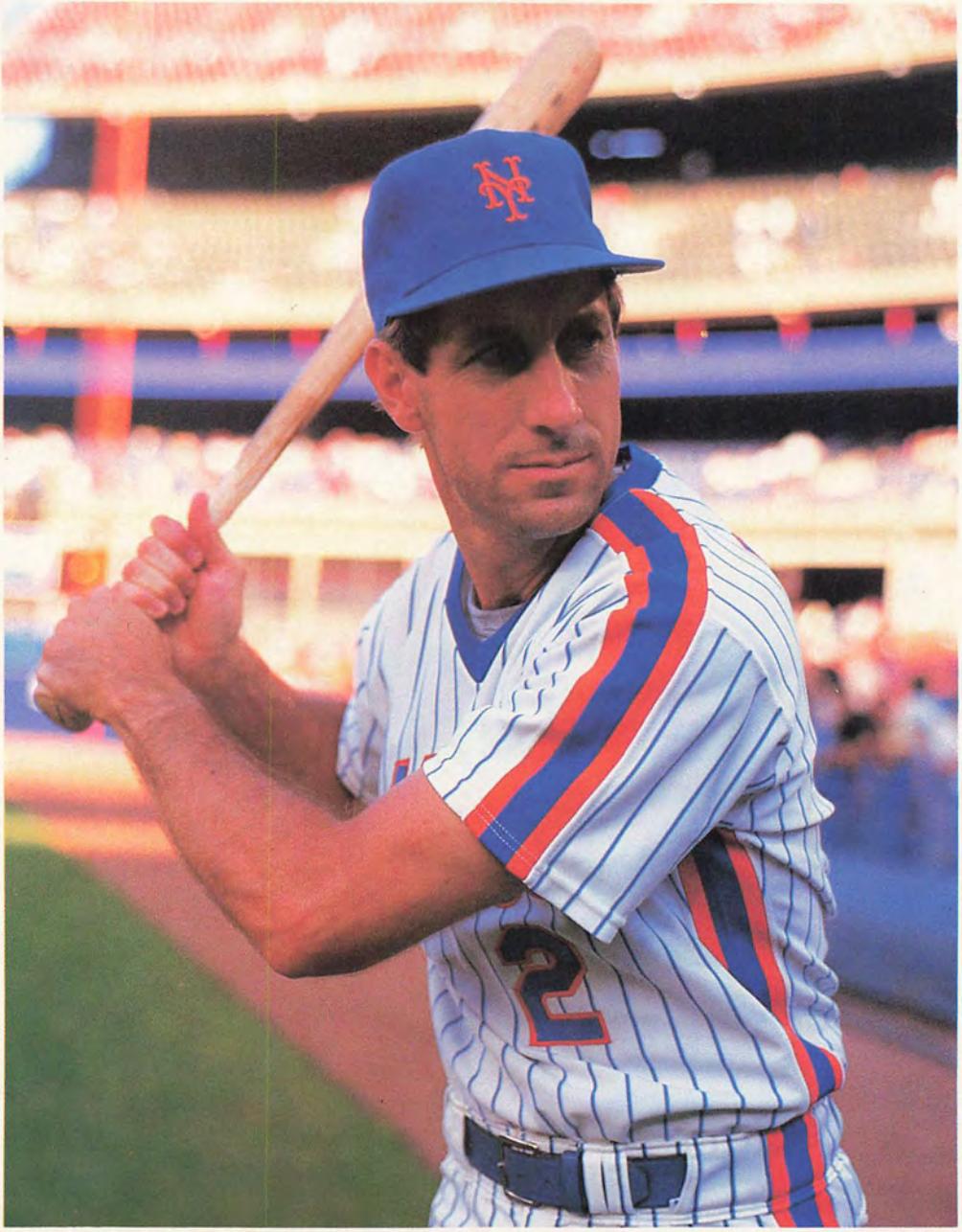
DAVID CONE



"I'm a power pitcher. I throw a hard slider to go with the fastball, and I use a split-fingered change-up once in a while. I can start, go long relief or short. Whatever they want, I can do."

2

BILL ALMON

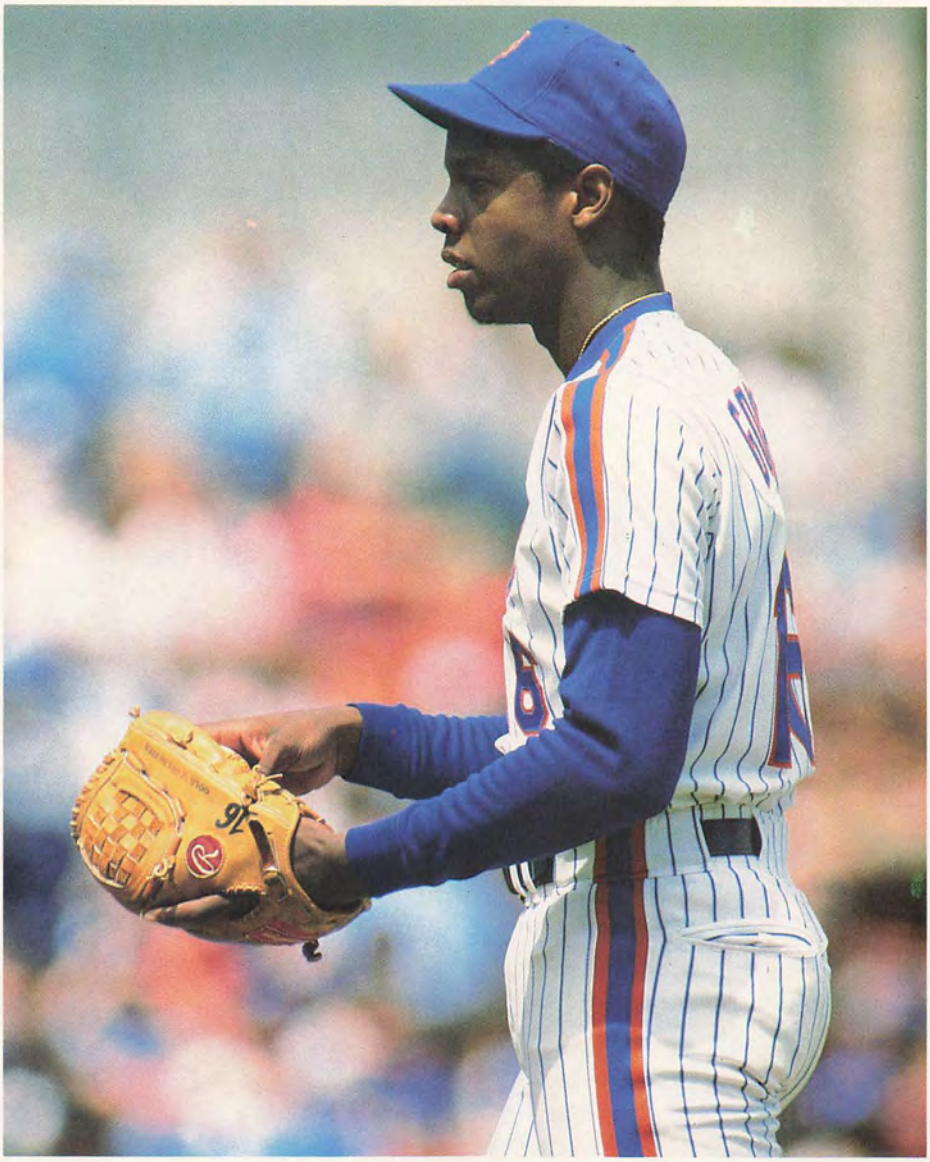


"Things are sure different from the first time I was here. I guess Mookie and Wally are the only two guys who were here then. But I'm happy to be back, to help in any way I can."

Mets
16

16

DWIGHT GOODEN



"When I was growing up, I didn't know you could win all these things. I just wanted to play baseball. It wasn't until later, maybe in high school, that I found out about awards like the Cy Young Award. That's when I decided I would try to become the best I could.

"I feel that when I've got the ball in my hands, I'm in charge and I can't be beat. That's the way every pitcher has got to look at it."

Mets
22

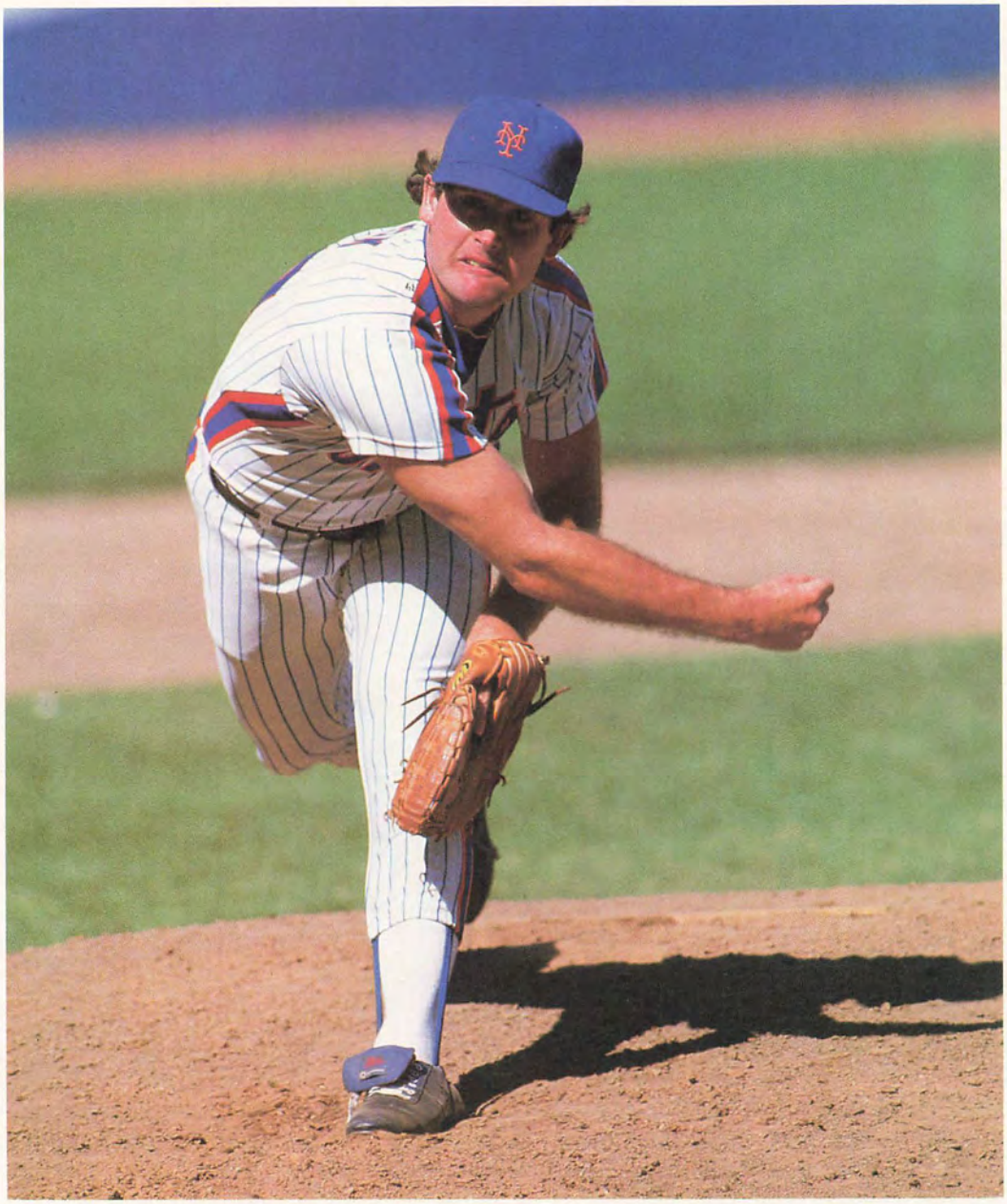
22

KEVIN McREYNOLDS

"I'm really looking forward to coming to New York. What player wouldn't want to come to the team that won a World Championship? The trade can really be a blessing. It's up to me to go to New York and make the most of it."

39

DOUG SISK



"I went home after the Series and did a lot of running and stayed away from the refrigerator. I've never felt better than I do this year. I'm raring to go."

DOUBLE PLAY

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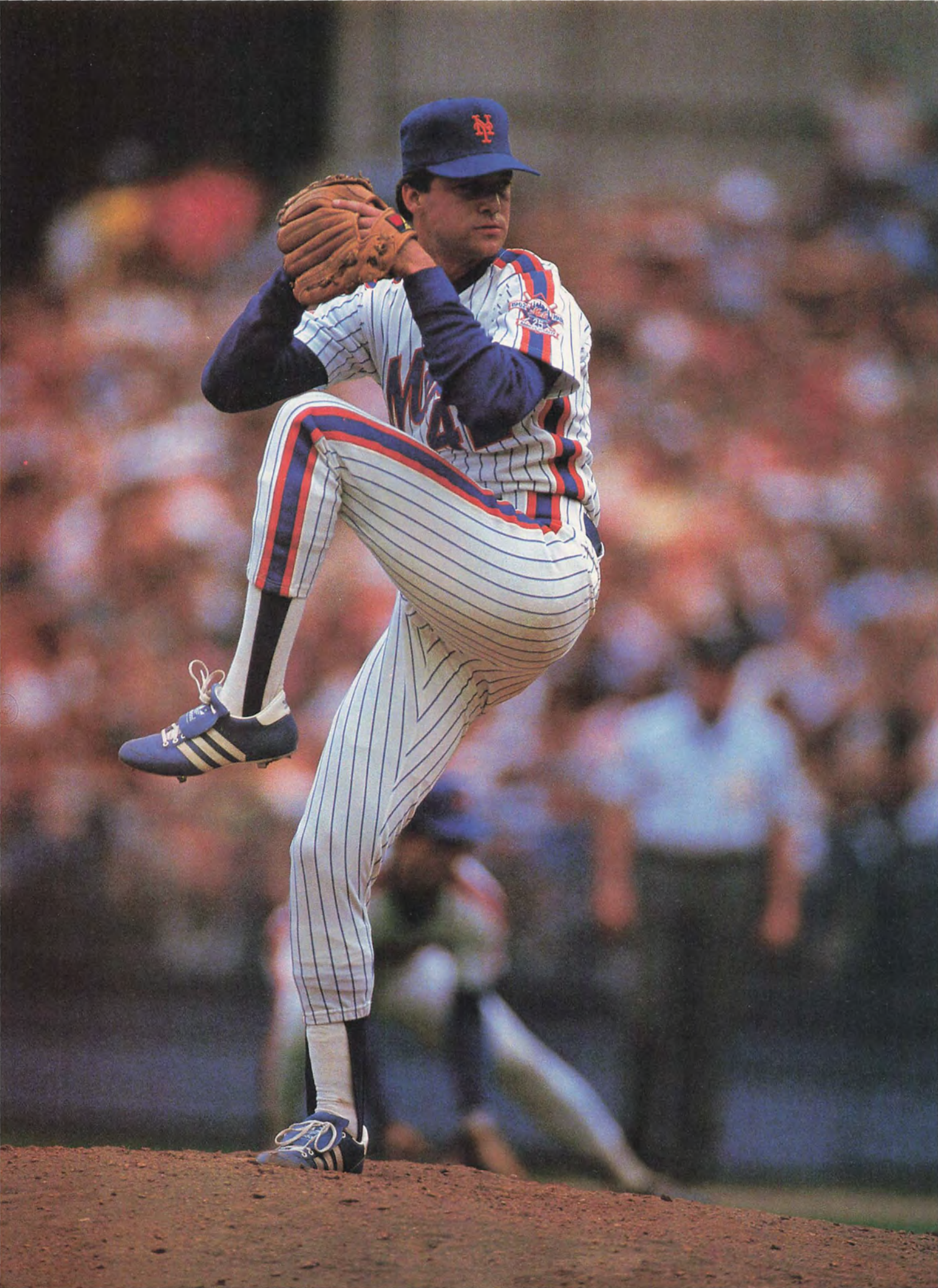
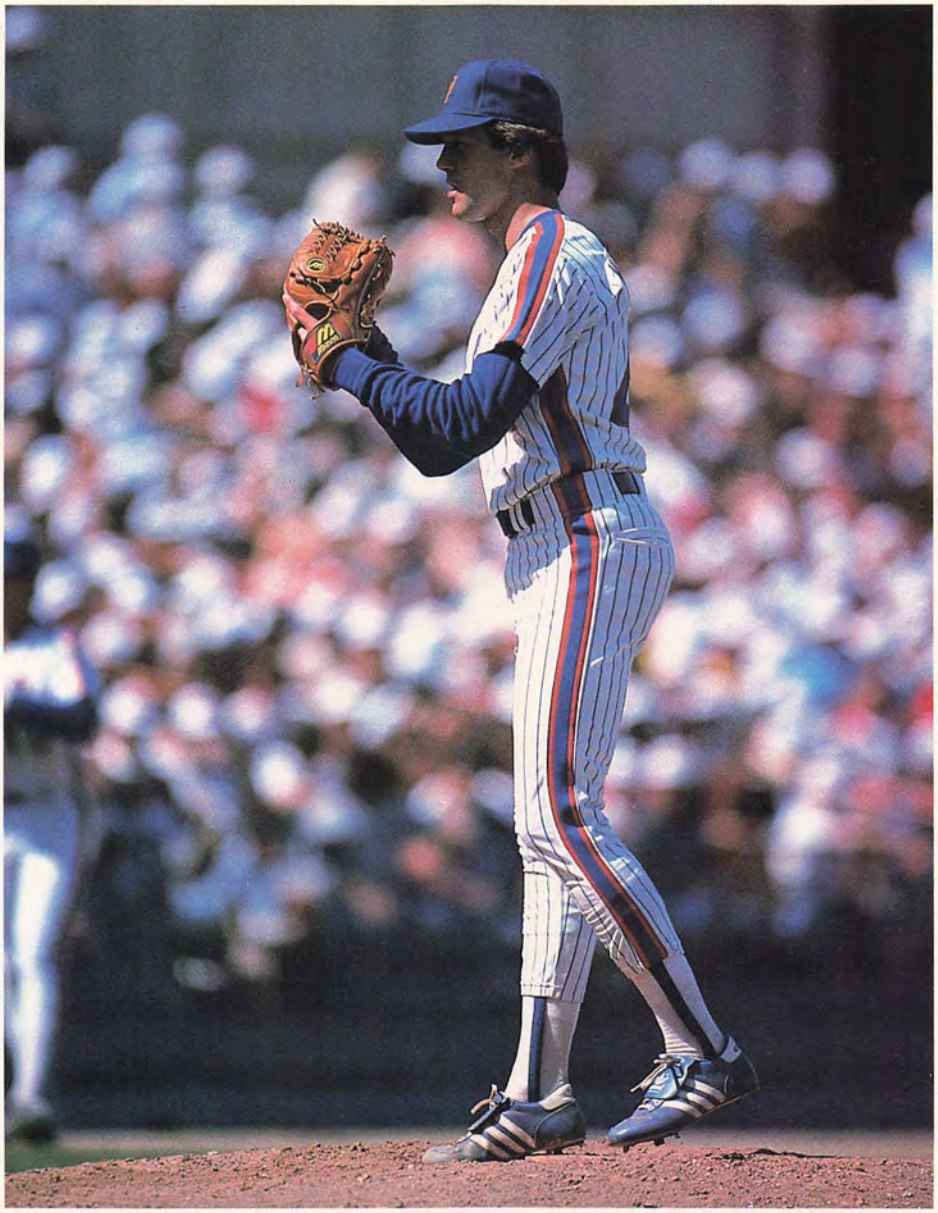


42

ROGER McDOWELL



"A relief pitcher lives with ups and downs. You have to have a philosophy; either you do it or you don't. You can't dwell on the times you don't, and keep in mind the times you do."

6

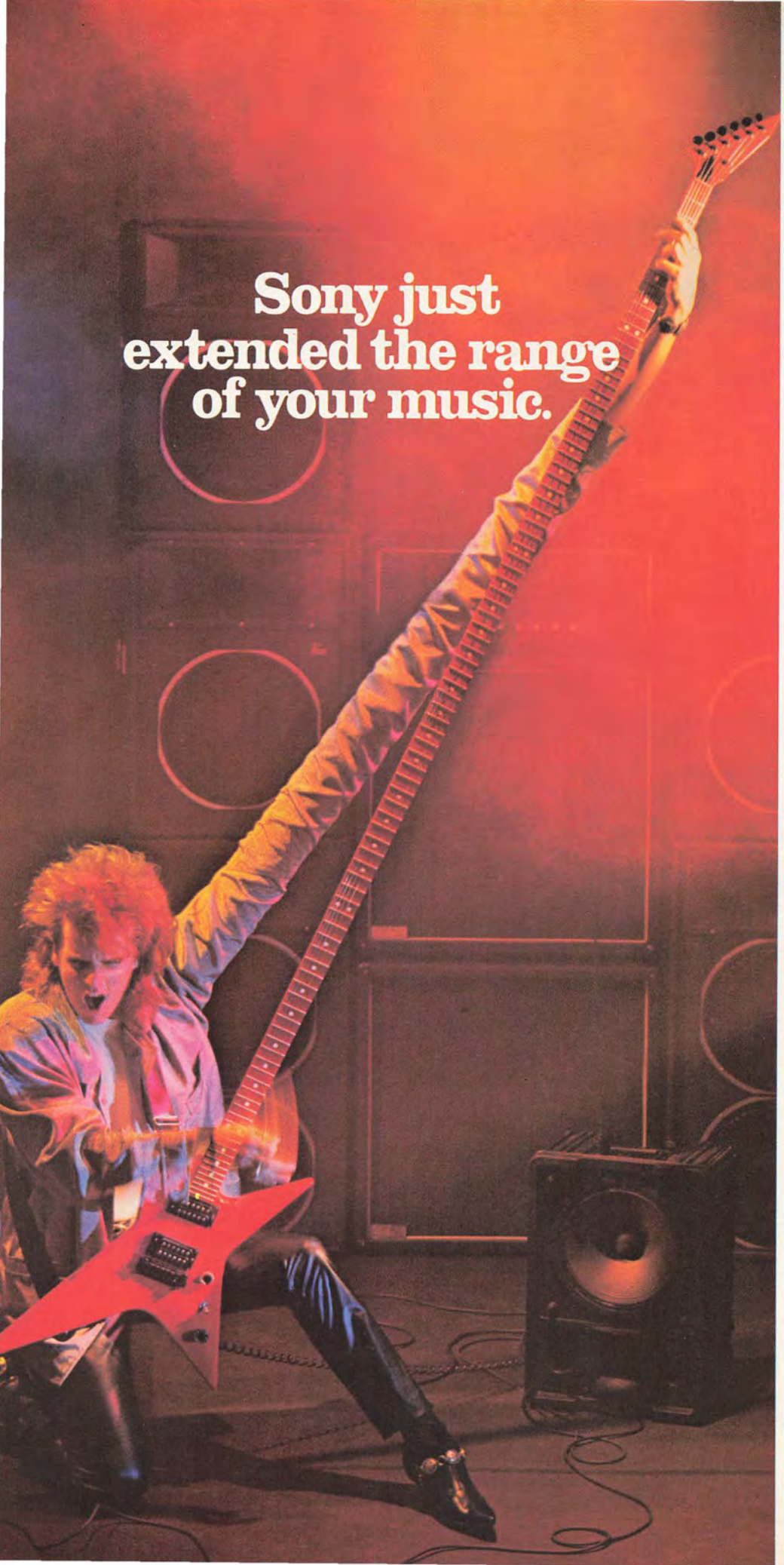
WALLY BACKMAN

"It's part of my makeup. I have to play hard and do the little things. If I was a dog, I wouldn't be where I am . . . I think when you're smaller, you have to be that way. It's a natural part of my makeup. You don't see any little guys who don't play that way. If they don't, you'll probably never hear from them."

26

TERRY LEACH

"I just go out and pitch. I've gotten used to having a lot of days off. I don't think there's any benefit not knowing I'm going to pitch. As a reliever, it's that way all the time. So I'm always ready. I've learned not to worry."



Our new UX tapes deliver higher highs, lower lows and wider dynamic range.

When a rocker takes the stage, you can throw out the rule book. Anything and everything goes. Guitars wail. Chords explode. The music doesn't stop until the musician has thoroughly extended himself.

With that in mind, we introduce the UX audiotape series. Four newly conceived tapes that also reach new levels. Capturing the peaks and valleys of the decibel meter like no Sony tape before them.

Take the UX-ES, for one. It offers the best frequency response of any Type II tape ever formulated by Sony.

Going even further is the UX-PRO. With a ceramic tape guide it provides the most silent tape housing Sony has ever produced.

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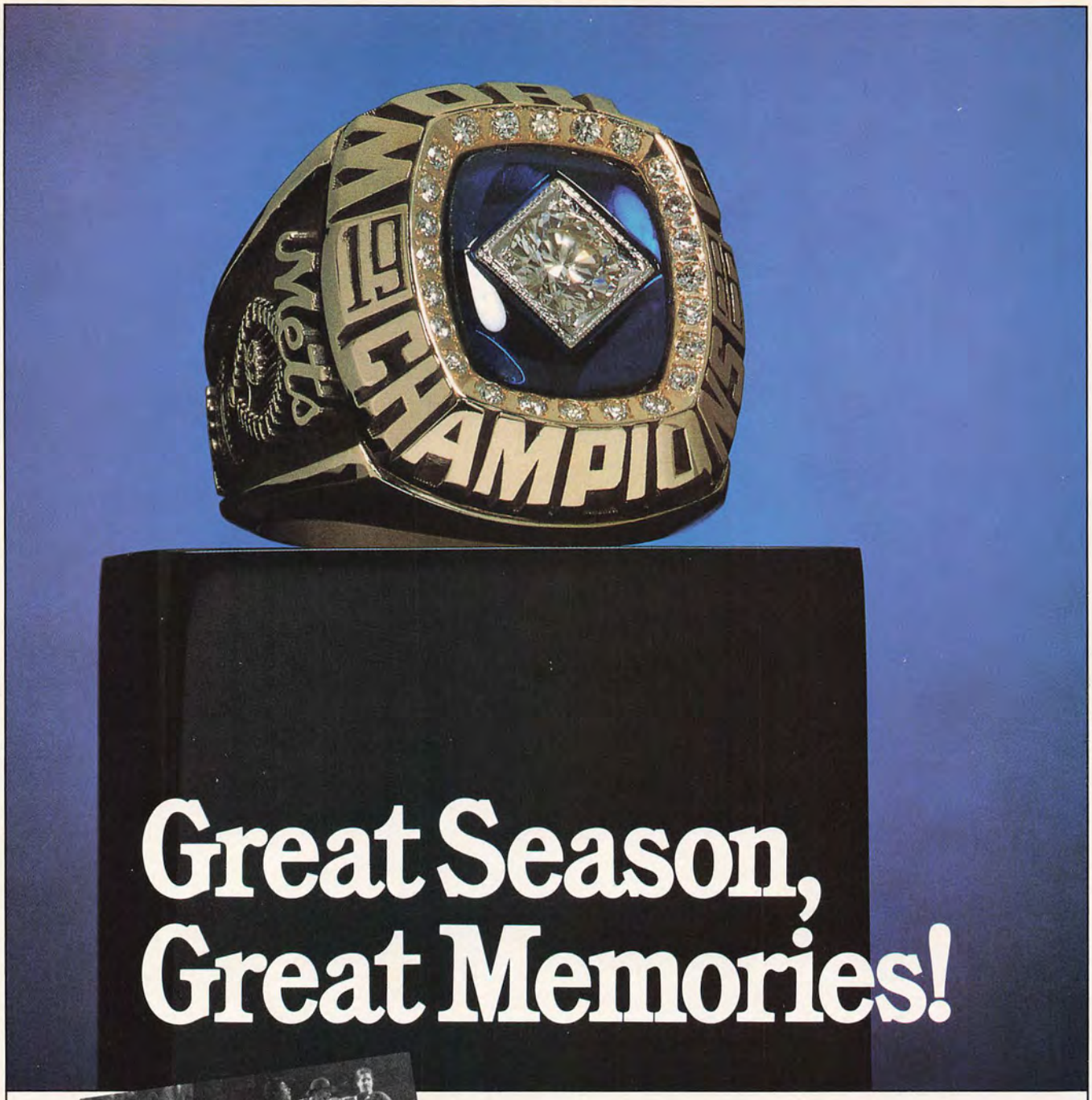

Great Season, Great Memories!

Balfour salutes the New York Mets, World Champions of Baseball and proud possessors of the Championship Ring created by Balfour to capture the memories and moments that went into that crowning achievement.

Best wishes to the team that inspired the nation. We look forward to future great seasons and celebrations of world class memories to come.

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1986
A Year to Remember

1986: A YEAR TO

When did you first realize it? Was it that first night in Pittsburgh, when Doc went all the way to beat the Pirates? Was it that Saturday afternoon in April, when Wally Backman went face-first to the plastic turf to save a game in St. Louis and key a four-game sweep? Was it when the winning streak reached 11 games?

When did it first hit you that this team was on its way to doing things that no Mets team had ever *dreamed* of doing? That it would win more games than any NL team in the last decade? That it would hit more homers, record more strikeouts and have the highest batting average of any Mets team ever? That it would clinch the division title more than two weeks before the season's last game? That it would draw more fans than any other professional sports franchise in this city's history?

And that it would erase the frustration of the previous two seasons' near misses with a three-week, post-season roller coaster ride that was part crusade, part fairy tale, and part pulp fiction?

Maybe you didn't realize it until the season had rolled along a bit. When not one but *two* pitchers started off the season with 6-0 records? When two Giant infielders collided at second base and let an easy pop-up drop to allow the winning run to score? When Tim Teufel belted that grand slam to beat the Phillies, and it came out the next day that it was only the eighth time in the history of this game that somebody had pinch-hit a grand slam in extra innings?

When could you sense that this Mets team played with a style, a passion, a determination all its own? Was it in that crazy game in Cincinnati, when Carter played third base and Orosco and McDowell flip-flopped in the outfield? Was it the night Rick Anderson, after nine years in the minor leagues, finally got his chance under the big top for the first time? Was it the time Ray Knight struck out four times, then homered in the tenth inning to beat Houston? Or maybe was it the Sunday afternoon in Atlanta, when Carter, Strawberry and Mitchell went back-to-back-to-back...three straight over the fence?

When did you know, deep down, that this team would make good on a manager's spring training promise

REMEMBER

not only to win, not only to contend, but to dominate? When they reached 50 wins by game number 71? When you started counting magic numbers in August? When, after it was over, you saw that they had an 11-game win streak, an eight-game win streak and two seven-game win streaks? When they dug out the stat that only eight other teams in the history of baseball had won as many games as this one had?

Or that, in this Silver Anniversary season, you could look up the fact that the Mets once went through a whole season . . . 1965 . . . and didn't produce a single pitcher with double figures in wins? And that this club would have *SIX*?

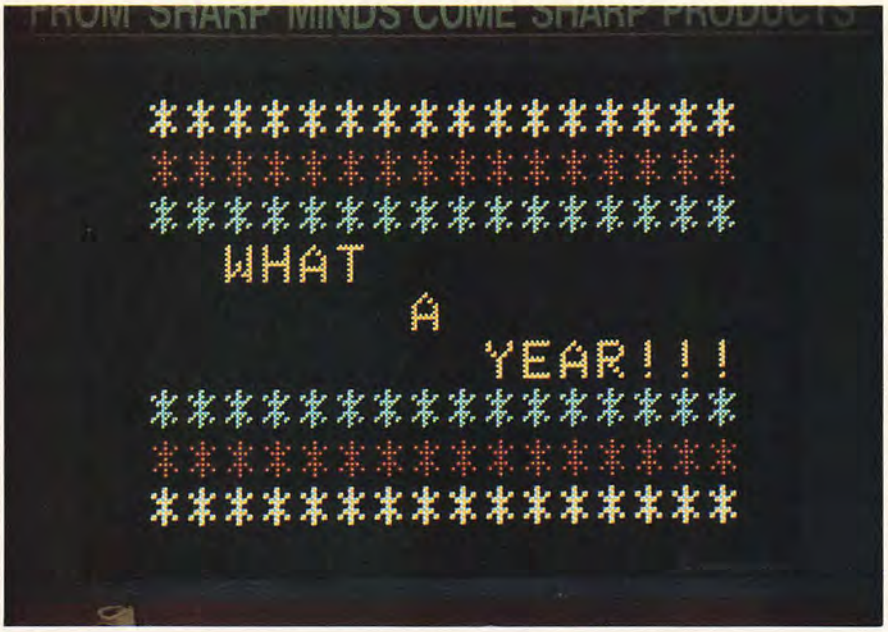
Or did it come to you when, late in the year, little things began to happen that would tip you off as to the kind of post-season it would be? Like a seven-run rally to win a game in Montreal. Or the Dykstra-to-Gibbons-to-Johnson double play that choked off a Padre rally in the 11th inning. Or when a rookie—Dave Magadan—would step in for Hernandez at the last minute and get three hits and two RBI in the division clincher and set off a night-long celebration.

Maybe you didn't realize it until later, in October. When Nails went deep. Or during the excruciating tension of 16 innings in Houston. Or during a four-batter sequence in the bottom of the tenth inning on a Saturday night at Shea; one that you'll be able to recite, batter for batter, for the rest of your life.

Or maybe it was at the very end; when Jesse Orosco dropped to his knees and flung his glove to the heavens to give the year one final, tangible exclamation point.

Whenever it came to you, each and every one of us had that delicious moment when we realized that what we were seeing was something special, and grand, and unique, and well worth waiting all those lean years for. Wherever you were during the summer of 1986, you were treated to enough memorable games, men and moments to last a lifetime. We hope we've captured a few of them for you here.

1986 METS



APRIL (13-3)

April 8: The championship season begins with a 4-2 victory at Pittsburgh... Dwight Gooden goes all the way on a six-hitter, while Keith Hernandez drives in two runs.

April 14: Before a sellout crowd of 47,752 at Shea, the Mets lose the home opener to the Cards, 6-2 in 13 innings... Mets are below .500 (at 2-3) for the first and only time this year, and are about to embark on a club record-tying 11-game win streak.

April 18: The win streak begins with a 5-2 win over the Phillies at Shea. Ron Darling and Jesse Orosco combine on a five-hitter.

April 23: As the Mets have the day off, the Cardinals lose to the Cubs, 6-0, giving the Mets sole possession of first place in the NL East. They would hold the top spot for the rest of the year.

April 24-27: Mets sweep the defending NL Champion Cardinals in a four-game series at Busch Stadium... Scores are 5-4 (10), 9-0 (Gooden five-hitter), 4-3 and 5-3... In the 4-3 win on the 26th, Wally Backman turns in perhaps the most spectacular defensive play of the season, diving to his right to turn Terry Pendleton's potential game-tying single in the ninth into a game-ending double play.

April 30: Mets tie a club mark with their 11th win in a row, beating the Braves at Atlanta, 8-1... Darryl Strawberry collects five hits, while Gary Carter homers... Streak would end the next night with a 7-2 loss to the Braves' Zane Smith.

(Mets finish April at 13-3, first place, five games up)

MAY (18-9)

May 11: Gooden takes his first loss of the year and first since August 31,

HIGHLIGHTS

1985, as the Reds beat him, 3-2 at Shea... It breaks a nine-game win streak at Shea.

May 18: Reliever Randy Niemann retires 11 of 13 Dodgers to face him and picks up his first win as a Met as New York posts a come-from-behind, 8-4 win at Los Angeles.

May 20: Mets pull off four double plays en route to Bob Ojeda's 2-1 win at San Francisco.

May 23: Mookie Wilson goes 5-for-5 and picks up his 46th career triple to take over first place on the all-time Mets list in a 7-4 loss at San Diego.

May 27: Ron Darling ties a Mets club record for starting pitchers by picking up his sixth win of the year without a loss, a five-hit, 12-strikeout, 8-1 triumph over the Dodgers at Shea.

May 30: The Mets score two in the bottom of the tenth to post a last-gasp 8-7 win over the Giants at Shea... Ray Knight's sacrifice fly ties the game, then Kevin Mitchell scores the winning run when Giants' shortstop Jose Uribe and second baseman Robby Thompson collide at the middle of the infield and drop Rafael Santana's two-out popup.

(Mets finish May at 31-12, first place, six games up)

JUNE (19-9)

June 8: Making his first major league appearance in a pro career that began in 1978, Rick Anderson allows just four hits over seven innings against Philadelphia, and leaves with a 2-1 lead... Phillies, however, rally to beat the Mets and Doug Sisk, 3-2.

June 10: Tim Teufel's pinch-hit grand slam in the bottom of the 11th inning off Tom Hume gives the Mets an 8-4 win over Phillies... It is only the eighth extra-inning pinch-hit grand slam in major league history.

June 13: Gooden fans 13 in beating the Pirates, 6-5 at Shea... Orosco appears in his seventh straight game, setting a club mark.

June 14: The Mets' first-place lead reaches double figures (10 games) for the first time this year as Sid Fernandez three-hits the Pirates, 5-1 at Shea.

June 28: Roger McDowell becomes the first pitcher in Mets history to start the year at 7-0, as he hurls two innings of shutout relief in a 5-2 Mets win at Chicago.

(Mets finish June at 50-21, first place, 9½ games up)

JULY (16-11)

July 2: Mets complete a 5-0 road trip (the longest all-winning trip in club history) with a 4-3 win at St. Louis... Sisk hurls 2.2 innings of shutout relief for the win.

July 3: Home run heroics lift the Mets to a 6-5 win over Houston at Shea... Strawberry's two-run homer in the bottom of the tenth ties the score off reliever Frank DiPino, and, two outs later, Knight's solo shot wins it... Strawberry homered twice in the game, while Ed Hearn also homered.

July 11: Fernandez fires his first major league shutout, blanking the Braves on two hits, 11-0 at Shea... Carter belts two homers (including his tenth career grand slam) and drives in seven runs.

July 14-16: At the All-Star break, the Mets are 59-25 with a 13-game lead... It's the biggest lead at the break for any NL team since divisional play began in 1969... Five Mets (Hernandez, Gooden, Strawberry, Carter, Fernandez) named to All-Star squad.

July 18: Houston's Bob Knepper shuts out the Mets, 3-0 at the Dome... It's the first shutout against the Mets since September 11, 1985; a club record 110 games without being blanked.

July 22: In one of the wackiest games in club history, the Mets

outlast the Reds, 6-3 in a five-hour, 14-inning marathon at Riverfront... Game features McDowell and Orosco flip-flopping between the mound and the outfield, Carter playing third base (no. 80 in Mets history), and a tenth-inning altercation between Knight and the Reds' Eric Davis... Howard Johnson's three-run homer off Ted Power is the winning hit in the 14th.

July 27: Mets belt three straight homers for the fourth time in club history and the first time since 1974... Carter, Strawberry and Mitchell connect in the third inning of a 5-1 win at Atlanta.

July 30: Fernandez fans 11 in five innings, recording strikeouts on his first nine outs of the game, but loses to the Cubs, 4-3.

(Mets finish July at 66-32, first place, 15½ games up)

AUGUST (21-11)

August 9: Mets rally for seven runs in the eighth inning, capped by Wilson's three-run homer, and beat the Expos, 10-8 at Montreal... Orosco saves McDowell's win for his 86th career save, moving him past Tug McGraw and into first place on the all-time club list.

August 11: Hernandez collects an RBI in his eighth straight game to establish a club mark... Gooden goes all the way to beat the Phillies, 8-4 at the Vet.

August 14-17: Four-date series against St. Louis draws 185,445 to Shea, an all-time Mets record for a four-dater... On the 16th, Mets go over the two-million mark at the earliest point in club history.

August 16: Playing first base, Carter suffers a partial tear of the radial ligament of the left thumb, and is placed on the 15-day DL... Mets lose to Cards, 3-1.

August 18-20: Mets sweep a three-game series at Dodger Stadium for the first time since 1966... Scores are 5-4, 6-4 and 7-5.

August 23: The lead reaches 20 games as winner Bob Ojeda and reliever McDowell combine on a five-hitter to beat the Giants, 3-2 at Candlestick.

August 27: A centerfield-to-home plate-to-third base double play ends a 6-5, 11-inning win at San Diego as the Mets complete the winningest (8-1) West Coast trip in their history... Dykstra's throw home on Tim Flannery's single nailed Garry Templeton at the plate, as catcher John Gibbons held onto the ball after a bone-jarring collision... Gibbons then fired to third base, where Johnson put the tag on the sliding Flannery to end the game.

August 30: Mets win their 21st game in August (tying a club mark for their winningest August ever) as Rick Aguilera hurls eight strong innings and has a two-run single in a 6-3 win over the Dodgers.

(Mets finish August at 87-43, first place, 19 games up)

SEPTEMBER (16-11)

September 6: Carter has the 25th multi-homer game of his career with a pair off Andy Hawkins and Lance McCullers in a 4-3 win over San Diego at Shea... Magic number down to eight.

September 10: The lead reaches 22 games—the biggest lead of any NL team since the advent of divisional play in 1969—as homers by Wilson and Hernandez in the first inning key a 6-1 win over Montreal at Shea... Magic number down to two.

September 16: Mets break a four-game losing streak and knock the magic number down to one with a 4-2 win at St. Louis... Knight's two-run single is the key hit, while Orosco saves Aguilera's victory for his 18th save of season.

September 17: Mets nail down their third NL Eastern Division title—and their first since 1973—with a 4-2 win over Chicago before a sellout crowd of 47,823 at Shea... Gooden goes all the way on a six-hitter, fanning eight... Rookie Dave Magadan, making his first major league start, goes 3-for-4 and drives in two runs... In terms of calendar dates, it is the earliest clinching in NL East history ('72 Pirates clinched on Sept. 21).

September 20: Stanley Jefferson and John Gibbons each belt their first major league homers in a 9-5 win over the Phillies at Shea.

September 25: Mets tie their all-time club mark with their 100th win of the season, as McDowell posts his club record 14th relief win, 6-5 at Chicago... The Mets' 48th road win ties another club mark... And for still another record, Mitchell belts the Mets' 140th homer of the season, breaking the club mark of 139 set in 1962.

September 26: Win number 101—breaking the club mark of 100 set in 1969—is Fernandez' 3-1 triumph at Pittsburgh... Mets break another team mark with their 49th road win of the year.

September 28: Mets post their second straight extra-inning win at Pittsburgh, as Strawberry's three-run homer lifts them to a 4-1, 11-inning win.

(Mets finish September at 103-54, first place, 19½ games up)

OCTOBER (5-0)

October 5: Regular season ends as Darling and Fernandez combine for a 9-0 win over Pittsburgh... Carter, Strawberry (slam) and Knight homer... Final attendance mark is 2,762,417 for a New York city record.

(Mets finish regular season at 108-54, first place, 21½ games up)

ASTROS 1, METS 0

NLCS GAME 1

The team that led the National League in pitching showed why. But the team that led the National League in hitting didn't. Mike Scott saw to that, and the Mets were losers in their first post-season game in 13 years.

Scott fired perhaps the most overpowering game the Mets had seen pitched against them all season long. The eventual Cy Young Award winner shut the Mets out on five hits and struck out 14, recording at least one K in each inning. Such was Scott's mastery over his former mates that only twice in the game's first eight innings did the Mets get a runner as far as second base.

"He's not God. But he threw a great game."—*Keith Hernandez*

"All I can do is tip my cap to him. He was outstanding."
—Gary Carter

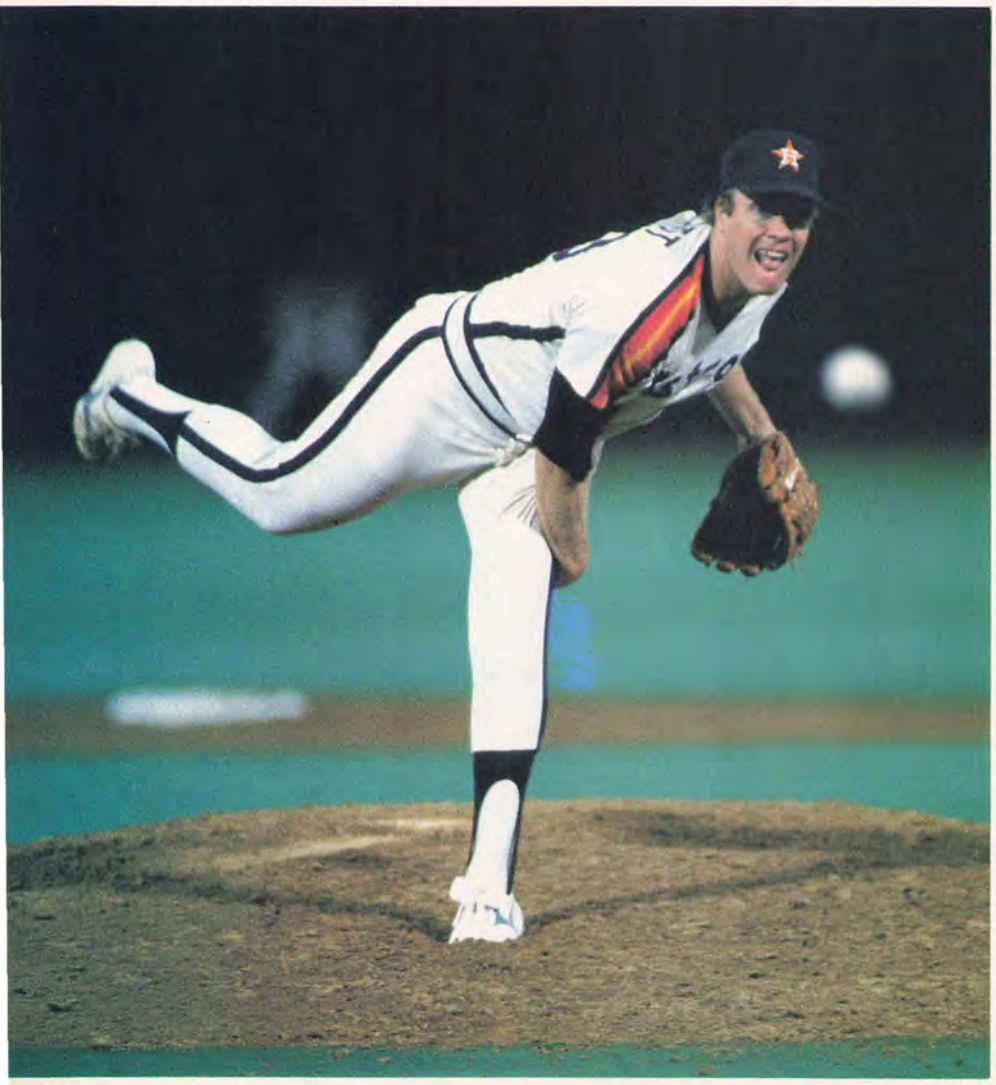
By then, the Astros had posted the run that would make them a winner. Glenn Davis provided that with a towering homer to dead centerfield leading off the second inning against Dwight Gooden. It was the only blemish against the Doctor, who continually worked his way out of trouble, stranding eight Houston runners in the six innings following Davis' blast.

The Mets had a final shot in the ninth, when Darryl Strawberry singled with one out, and then daringly stole second base with Mookie Wilson at the plate. Mookie grounded out sharply to first baseman Davis, with Strawberry taking third . . . marking the first time all night that the Mets would get a runner to third base.

It would be the only time, too. Scott made Ray Knight his 14th and final strikeout of the evening, and the Mets, already under glass, were under the gun as well.

"They threw their best at us and beat us."—*Ray Knight*

Game one belongs to Mike Scott.



New York	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Dykstra, cf	3	0	1	0	Hatcher, cf	3	0	0	0
Bckmn, 2b	4	0	0	0	Doran, 2b	4	0	0	0
Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	0	Walling, 3b	4	0	0	0
Carter, c	4	0	0	0	Davis, 1b	4	1	1	1
Strwbry, rf	4	0	1	0	Bass, rf	4	0	2	0
M. Wlsn, lf	4	0	0	0	Cruz, lf	4	0	1	0
Knight, 3b	4	0	0	0	Ashby, c	1	0	1	0
Santana, ss	2	0	1	0	Rynlds, ss	3	0	2	0
Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0	Thon, ss	0	0	0	0
Orosco, p	0	0	0	0	Scott, p	3	0	0	0
Gooden, p	2	0	0	0					
Heep, ph	1	0	1	0					
Elster, ss	0	0	0	0					
Totals	**33**	**0**	**5**	**0**	**Totals**	**30**	**1**	**7**	**1**

New York							**000**	**000**	**000**	**— 0**
Houston							**010**	**000**	**00x**	**— 1**

GWRBI—Davis. E—Reynolds. DP—New York 1. LOB—New York 7, Houston 8. 2B—Bass. HR—Davis (1). SB—Hatcher (1), Dykstra (1), Bass (1), Strawberry (1).

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gooden, L 0-1	7	7	1	1	3	5
Orosco	1	0	0	0	0	1
Houston						
Scott, W 1-0	9	5	0	0	1	14

Umpires—HP, Harvey; 1B, Weyer; 2B, Pulli; 3B, Rennert; Left, West; Right, Brocklander. T—3:00. A—44,131.

METS 5, ASTROS 1

NLCS GAME 2

"I thought Bobby pitched a really gutty ballgame. He didn't have the command he usually has, but he made the pitches he needed to make when he got into a jam."—*Davey Johnson*

Not that there wasn't any pressure on Bobby Ojeda. . .

And not that he didn't take matters into his own hands. . .

But.

Here were the Astros with first and third and only one out in the second inning of Game Two poised to break a scoreless tie and seize the lead again. Alan Ashby chops a nubber in front of the plate. It's too far for Gary Carter, and here's Kevin Bass lumbering home. . .and, from out of nowhere comes Bobby O off the mound to grab the ball and tag Bass on the helmet as he's about to cross the plate.

Turning point? You bet.

Scoreless into the fourth, and all Nolan Ryan has done is set down the first 10 men he's faced, five on strikeouts. But then Backman singles, and Hernandez singles. And Carter lines a double to right-center, and after 12.1 innings, the Mets are finally on the board. A Strawberry sacrifice fly makes it 2-0.

Ojeda leaves two Astros stranded in the fourth, and, finally, the Mets bust loose in the fifth. A single by Backman brings home one run against Ryan, then Hernandez seals the issue with a booming two-run triple to center.

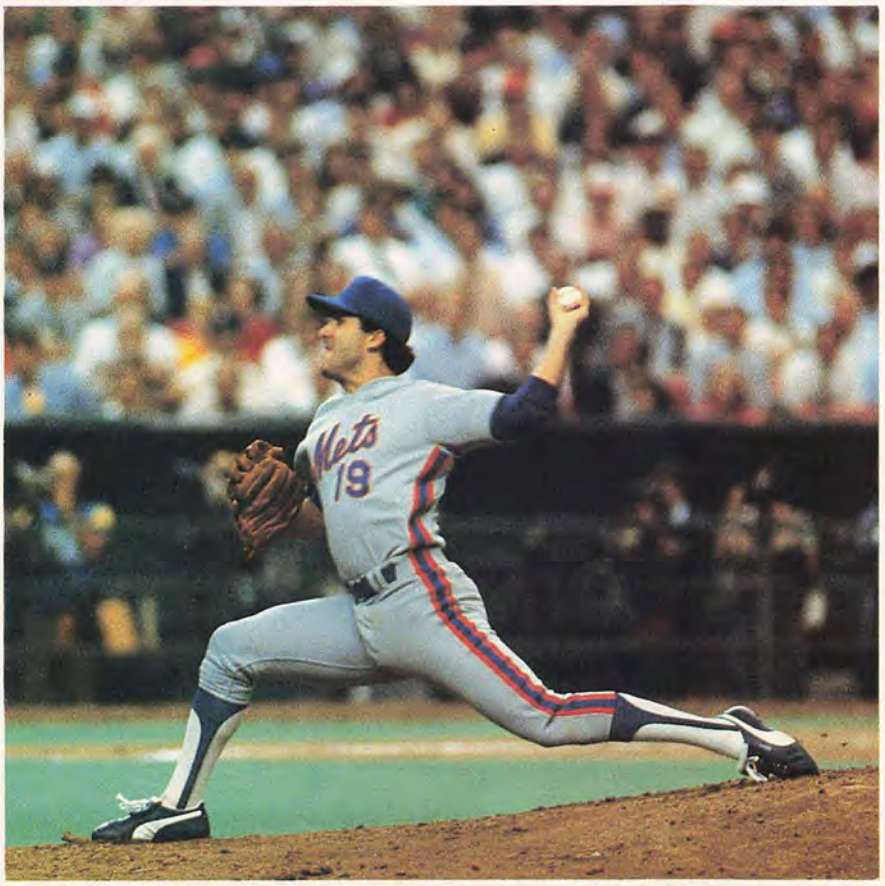
The rest belongs to Ojeda. Phill Garner's single brings home a run in the seventh, but that's all. Ojeda allows the one run in going all the way, walking only two and never allowing more than two hits in an inning. The series is tied, and the show moves to New York.

"He used good sense out there tonight. He spotted his pitches well, he used the fastball well. He had kind of a sixth sense out there."—*Phil Garner on Ojeda*

"This playoff is the finest matchup in years. We have two great pitching staffs and it makes for a good series. We're just glad to get out of here with just one game."

—*Keith Hernandez*

Bobby O. evens the series.



New York	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
Dykstra, cf	5	1	2	0	Hatcher, cf	5	0	1	0
Bckmn, 2b	5	2	2	1	Doran, 2b	4	0	1	0
Hrndz, 1b	3	1	2	2	Garner, 3b	3	0	1	1
Carter, c	5	0	1	1	Davis, 1b	4	0	1	0
Strwbry, rf	3	0	0	1	Bass, rf	3	0	2	0
M. Wlsn, cf	4	0	1	0	Cruz, lf	4	0	1	0
Knight, 3b	3	0	1	0	Ashby, c	4	0	0	0
Santana, ss	4	0	1	0	Thon, ss	4	0	2	0
Ojeda, p	4	1	0	0	Ryan, p	1	0	0	0
					Pnkvts, ph	1	0	0	0
					Andersn, p	0	0	0	0
					Puhl, ph	1	0	1	0
					Lopez, p	0	0	0	0
					Kerfeld, p	0	0	0	0
					Lopes, ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	**36**	**5**	**10**	**5**	**Totals**	**35**	**1**	**10**	**1**

New York							**000**	**230**	**000**	**— 5**
Houston							**000**	**000**	**100**	**— 1**

GWRBI—Carter (1). E—Hatcher, Davis. DP—New York 2, Houston 1. LOB—New York 8, Houston 9. 2B—Bass, Carter, Dykstra. 3B—Hernandez. SB—Wilson (1). SF—Strawberry.

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ojeda, W 1-0	9	10	1	1	2	5
Houston						
Ryan, L 0-1	5	7	5	5	0	5
Andersen	2	1	0	0	1	2
Lopez	1⅓	2	0	0	2	1
Kerfeld	⅔	0	0	0	0	0

Umpires—HP, Weyer; 1B, Pulli; 2B, Rennert; 2B, West; Left, Brocklander; Right, Harvey. T—2:40. A—44,391.

METS 6, ASTROS 5

NLCS GAME 3

Much of the crowd of 55,052 was still out in the Shea parking lot when the Astros leaped off to a 4-0 lead off Ron Darling after only an inning and a half. They strung together three hits and a hit batter for two runs in the first, then Billy Doran pumped one under the scoreboard with a man on in the second to put the Mets in a four-notch hole.

The adversary on the mound this time was Bob Knepper, and nobody had to be reminded of a night back in July . . . when he shut the Mets out on three hits at the Dome for the first whitewash against New York in 110 games. It all looked too hauntingly familiar when Knepper hung a zero on the Mets over the first five innings.

But Darling had toughened after the early roughing, and suddenly, there were stirrings in the home sixth. Kevin Mitchell led off with a single, then Hernandez followed with another hit. Carter's grounder was bobbled by shortstop Craig Reynolds . . . and a run was in with men on first and second and none out.

And Strawberry up. And over the auxiliary scoreboard in right for a tie game.

"The phone rang and Mel was saying that he wanted me to warm up. I stood, and got my glove and ball and opened the door. And just then I heard the roar of the crowd. I didn't know what happened, and I looked up and saw a baseball land right in front of me, and when it bounced I caught it. The guys were screaming, and I realized what had happened."
—Roger McDowell

But a walk and an error by Knight helped the Astros along to a tie-breaking run in the seventh against

"The only other time I ever did something like that was in a Strat-O-Matic game against my little brother."—*Lenny Dykstra*

"I'll be on my death bed, dying, delirious, saying, 'Lenny, Lenny, Lenny . . .' "
—Keith Hernandez

Rick Aguilera. And after Straw's dinger, Knepper set down six of the next seven men to face him, and

One swing . . .

. . . and a hero's welcome.

"I don't think they'd have had me even if I went in straight up. But I have been tagged out sliding in straight up this year. I slid right on top of the line and kicked up all the chalk. I didn't think there was much of an argument."—*Wally Backman*

Charlie Kerfeld posted a 1-2-3 eighth.

Backman led off the home ninth, and his bunt against Dave Smith twisted up the first base line. And there went Wally, in the lane, out of the lane, face-first into the bag to elude first baseman Davis' tag. And suddenly, after the argument, there he was on second after a passed ball, the tying run in scoring position.

But pinch-hitter Danny Heep flied out, and Lenny Dykstra stepped in with Backman all of a sudden looking mighty far away out there.

Lenny swung, almost one-handed, at a Smith fork ball. It had a lot of carry to it, but Bass in right wasn't going back at full speed, so maybe it would die. But suddenly Kevin was running out of room, way back, toward the near corner of the bullpen, and *Looking Up* (as Gary Thorne would say), and gone; and in about ten seconds or so, Nails would be pummeled by his teammates at home plate.

"When you have a big crowd you get very excited. I had a great swing and the ball carried. We were down 4-0 and battled back for the tie. This team has plugged away all year long."—*Darryl Strawberry*

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Doran, 2b	4	2	2	2	M. Wlsn, cf	4	0	0	0
Hatcher, cf	3	1	2	0	Mitchell, 1f	4	1	2	0
Walling, 3b	5	1	1	2	Orosco, p	0	0	0	0
Davis, 1b	3	0	1	0	Hrndz, 1b	4	1	2	0
Bass, rf	3	0	0	0	Carter, c	4	1	0	0
Cruz, 1f	3	0	1	1	Strwbry, rf	4	1	2	3
Ashby, c	4	0	0	0	Knight, 3b	4	0	1	0
Rynlds, ss	2	1	1	0	Teufel, 2b	3	0	0	0
Lopes, ph	1	0	0	0	Bckmn, 2b	1	1	1	0
Kerfeld, p	0	0	0	0	Santana, ss	3	0	0	0
Smith, p	0	0	0	0	Heep, ph	1	0	0	0
Knepper, p	3	0	0	0	Darling, p	1	0	0	0
Thon, ss	1	0	0	0	Mazzilli, ph	1	0	1	0
					Aguilera, p	0	0	0	0
					Dykstra, cf	2	1	1	2
Totals	**32**	**5**	**8**	**5**	**Totals**	**36**	**6**	**10**	**5**

Houston	**220**	**000**	**100 — 5**
New York	**000**	**004**	**002 — 6**

One out when winning run scored.

GWRBI—Dykstra (1). E—Reynolds, Knight. DP—New York 1. LOB—Houston 7, New York 5. HR—Doran (1), Strawberry (1), Dykstra (1). SB—Hatcher 2 (3), Bass (2). S—Hatcher.

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Knepper	7	8	4	3	0	3
Kerfeld	1	0	0	0	0	1
Smith, L 0-1	⅓	2	2	2	0	0
New York						
Darling	5	6	4	4	2	5
Aguilera	2	1	1	0	2	1
Orosco, W 1-0	2	1	0	0	1	2

HBP—Davis by Darling. WP—Darling. PB—Ashby 2. Umpires—HP, Pulli; 1B, Rennert; 2B, West; 3B, Brocklander; Left, Harvey; Right, Weyer. T—2:55. A—55,052.

ASTROS 3, METS 1

NLCS GAME 4

"I didn't have a good fastball so I knew I had to go to the split-finger more. I wanted to keep the ball down. I knew I had to keep it down, away and in the ballpark."—*Mike Scott*

That man. Again.

Scott pitched the Astros into a series tie, with a masterful three-hitter and a 3-1 victory.

Sid Fernandez, pitching on his 24th birthday, struck out five and allowed only three hits in six innings of work. He made only two mistakes all game. . . but both of them wound up over the wall.

Davis led off the second with a single. Sid punched out both Bass and Jose Cruz on strikes, but Ashby pounded one over the left field wall for a 2-0 Houston lead. El Sid then set down eight of the next nine, but Dickie Thon's solo shot in the fifth made it 3-0.

And that would be all they would get against Fernandez, who would allow only one hit—Thon's homer—in his last four innings. But for Scott, on this night, it was enough.

It wouldn't be until the fourth inning that the Mets would even get a baserunner. . . and that was on an error by Scott himself on a ball hit by Backman. It wouldn't be until the fifth that they'd get a hit, a two-out single by Knight. And it wouldn't be until the eighth that they'd finaly break through for a run, with Mookie legging out an infield hit, going first-to-third on Knight's grounder, and scoring on Heep's liner to center.

There were fleeting visions of the previous afternoon when Dykstra led off the ninth with a single. Backman laid down a bunt again, but this time Scott nailed him at first. From there, Scott retired Hernandez and Carter to close it out, and even matters at two games apiece. One way or another, this series was going back to Texas.

Mike was Great Scott again.

"He pitched a big game. They couldn't go down 3-1, and they knew it. He pitched a gem."—*Keith Hernandez*

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Doran, 2b	4	0	0	0	Dykstra, cf	4	0	1	0
Hatcher, cf	4	0	0	0	Bckmn, 2b	4	0	0	0
Garner, 3b	3	0	0	0	Hrndz, 1b	4	0	0	0
Walling, 3b	1	0	1	0	Carter, c	4	0	0	0
Davis, 1b	3	1	1	0	Strwbry, rf	3	0	0	0
Bass, rf	3	0	0	0	M. Wlsn, cf	3	1	1	0
Cruz, rf	4	0	0	0	Knight, 3b	3	0	1	0
Ashby, c	3	1	1	2	Santana, ss	2	0	0	0
Thon, ss	3	1	1	1	Heep, ph	0	0	0	1
Scott, p	3	0	0	0	Sisk, p	0	0	0	0
					Frndz, p	1	0	0	0
					Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0
					McDwll, p	0	0	0	0
					Jhnsn, ph.	1	0	0	0
					Elster, ss	0	0	0	0
Totals	**31**	**3**	**4**	**3**	**Totals**	**30**	**1**	**3**	**1**

Houston	**020 010 000 — 3**
New York	**000 000 010 — 1**

GWRBI—Ashby (1). E—Scott. LOB—Houston 3, New York 3. 2B—Walling. HR—Ashby (1), Thon (1). SB—Backman (1). SF—Heep.

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Scott, W 2-0	9	3	1	1	0	5
New York						
Fernandez, L 0-1	6	3	3	3	1	5
McDowell	2	0	0	0	0	1
Sisk	1	1	0	0	1	0

Umpires—HP, Rennert; 1B, West; 2B, Brocklander; 3B, Harvey; Left, Weyer; Right, Pulli. T—2:23. A—55,038.

METS 2, ASTROS 1 (12)

NLCS GAME 5

A day of rain gave both teams the chance to ponder upon the gravity of Game Five. And four-and-a-half innings of Game Five gave the Mets a chance to ponder what was becoming a king-sized predicament.

After four scoreless innings, the Astros broke through on Doc Gooden when Ashby doubled, went to third on Reynolds' single and eventually scored on Doran's grounder, with the Mets *just* failing to pull off an inning-ending double play.

Usually no cause for real alarm, except that Ryan had all-to-methodically set down the suddenly snakebitten Mets in order over the first four innings. Each of the first 12 Mets went down . . . eight on strikeouts and only two getting the ball out of the infield.

Now, with a 1-0 lead, Ryan set down Carter to start the fifth, making it 13 in a row. Then Straw tagged a fast ball and sent a clothesline drive . . . not high, but far, and headed to the rightfield corner. It was just beginning to tail away when it kissed the foul pole screen right above the 338 mark. Tie game.

From there, the two strikeout artists matched pitch for pitch, inning for inning. Not even was there a *threat* of scoring (except maybe in the eighth, when a line drive-turned-double play off Denny Walling's bat negated a Doran single). In the end, they emerged dead even. Ryan allowed just one other hit besides Darryl's homer (Hernandez' single in the seventh), and notched 12 strikeouts in nine innings' work.

"My only regret is the bad throw I made to first. That was stupidity on my part. I challenged Gary and he beat me. He won the bet. I'll just be ready tomorrow to go back out there."—*Charlie Kerfeld*

"It's very simple. If we win the sixth game, we don't have to think about Scott in the seventh."—*Davey Johnson*

Gooden, though, fashioned perhaps the most heroic performance of his short career. He went ten innings, the first time in his career that he'd ever gone beyond the ninth inning (and the first time for a Met in three years). He allowed nine hits, but never more than two in an inning, and after that fifth-inning run, the Astros never got a man to third.

But the issue was still unresolved at 1-1 as the game went into extra innings. Now it became a battle of the bullpens. Kerfeld relieved Ryan and set the Mets down in order in the 10th and 11th. Jesse Orosco came on for Gooden and did the same in the 11th and 12th.

To the home 12th, and when Kerfeld sets down Dykstra on a grounder to first to lead it off, it marks 14 straight Mets set down by Houston pitching. But then Backman's hard masher to third goes off Walling's glove, and chest, and to the turf for an infield hit.

"When I went out to pitch the ninth, I figured that this inning would be my last. So I went out and let it out and gave it everything I had. When the inning was over, I came to the dugout and nobody said anything. So I had to go out there and give it all I had one more time."—*Dwight Gooden*

Doc: Ten heroic innings.

Gary comes through. . .

Then the break. Kerfeld fires to first to try and pick off Backman, and winds up firing it past the lunging Davis to send Wally to second. Batter Hernandez, of course, is intentionally walked.

That brings in Carter, who is all of 1-for-21 so far in the LCS. And the man he faces—Kerfeld—is the source of his most maddening of playoff moments. That was back in Game Three, when Gary smacked a hard grounder ticketed for center field until Kerfeld reached behind his back, made a backhanded stab and turned it into an easy out with a play he dubbed "The Old Scoop-De-Loop. . ."

Well, here is it again. On a 3-2 pitch, Kid hits another one right back to the box. But this goes through. No Scoop-De-Loop here. And the next thing you see is the ball against the green of the outfield, and Backman tearing for the plate and a late throw and Wally sliding across with his teammates already out of the dugout to meet him. It would be a short plane ride to Houston.

"Nolan showed his true professionalism today. We had a lot of opportunities to get runs. We didn't get the hits with runners in scoring position. If we had, it would have been a nine-inning game."—*Hal Lanier*

"It's at the top of all the games I've ever played in. I knew it was just a matter of time. I'm not an .050 hitter."

—Gary Carter

. . . and the Mets are one win away.

Houston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Doran, 2b	4	0	1	1	Dykstra, cf	5	0	0	0
Hatcher, cf	3	0	1	0	Bckmn, 2b	5	1	1	0
Walling, 3b	5	0	1	0	Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	0
Davis, 1b	5	0	0	0	Carter, c	5	0	1	1
Bass, rf	5	0	2	0	Strwbry, rf	3	1	1	1
Cruz, lf	5	0	1	0	M. Wisn, cf	4	0	0	0
Ashby, c	5	1	1	0	Orosco, p	0	0	0	0
Rynids, ss	4	0	1	0	Knight, 3b	4	0	0	0
Thon, ss	1	0	0	0	Santana, ss	3	0	0	0
Ryan, p	3	0	0	0	Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0
Puhl, ph	1	0	1	0	Elster, ss	0	0	0	0
Kerfeld, p	0	0	0	0	Gooden, p	3	0	0	0
					Heep, lf	1	0	0	0
Totals	**41**	**1**	**9**	**1**	**Totals**	**38**	**2**	**4**	**2**

Houston						**000**	**010**	**000**	**000** — **1**
New York						**000**	**010**	**000**	**001** — **2**

One out when winning run scored.

GWRBI—Carter (2). E—Kerfeld. DP—New York 2. LOB—Houston 7, New York 4. 2B—Ashby. HR—Strawberry (2). SB—Doran (1), Puhl (1). S—Hatcher.

Houston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ryan	9	2	1	1	1	12
Kerfeld, L 0-1	2⅓	2	1	1	1	3
New York						
Gooden	10	9	1	1	2	4
Orosco, W 2-0	2	0	0	0	0	2

Umpires—HP, West; 1B, Brocklander; 2B, Harvey; 3B, Weyer. Left, Pulli; Right, Rennert. T—3:45.A—54,986.

METS 7, ASTROS 6 (16)

NLCS GAME 6

This was the game they made VCRs for.

They'll never top it. Ever. Will anyone who was a part of this one have any trouble remembering where they were, what they felt, what they were thinking, when Keith stomped on home plate with the tying run, or when Hatcher hit the screen, or when Jesse threw that one last pitch?

Funny how it started out looking every bit like a game to forget in a hurry.

Ojeda, the man who evened the series in Game Two, fell victim to a three-run Houston rally in the first. Doran led off with a single. After Billy Hatcher forced him at second, Garner doubled. 1-0. Then Davis singled. 2-0. A few batters later, Cruz singled. 3-0.

From there, it was Knepper's show, and at no time would the Mets be hogtied like they'd be right here. Knepper retired the first seven men before Santana singled in the third. Wilson would walk to put two men on, but Mitchell fanned to end the inning.

It mattered little that Ojeda had straightened out and shut out the Astros after the first inning, for Knepper was on a roll. After the walk to Wilson in the third, he would set down the next 14 batters in a row. Then Teufel singled in the eighth to break the spell, but Heep's double play grounder wiped that out.

And, gradually, you began to realize that the single most dominant player in the game was the guy in the Houston dugout keeping the pitching chart. Mike Scott, who merely had two complete game wins and a 0.50 ERA to show for his LCS so far. Mike Scott, the Game Seven pitcher. The guy the Mets would have to beat with everything on the line.

After they lost here, of course.

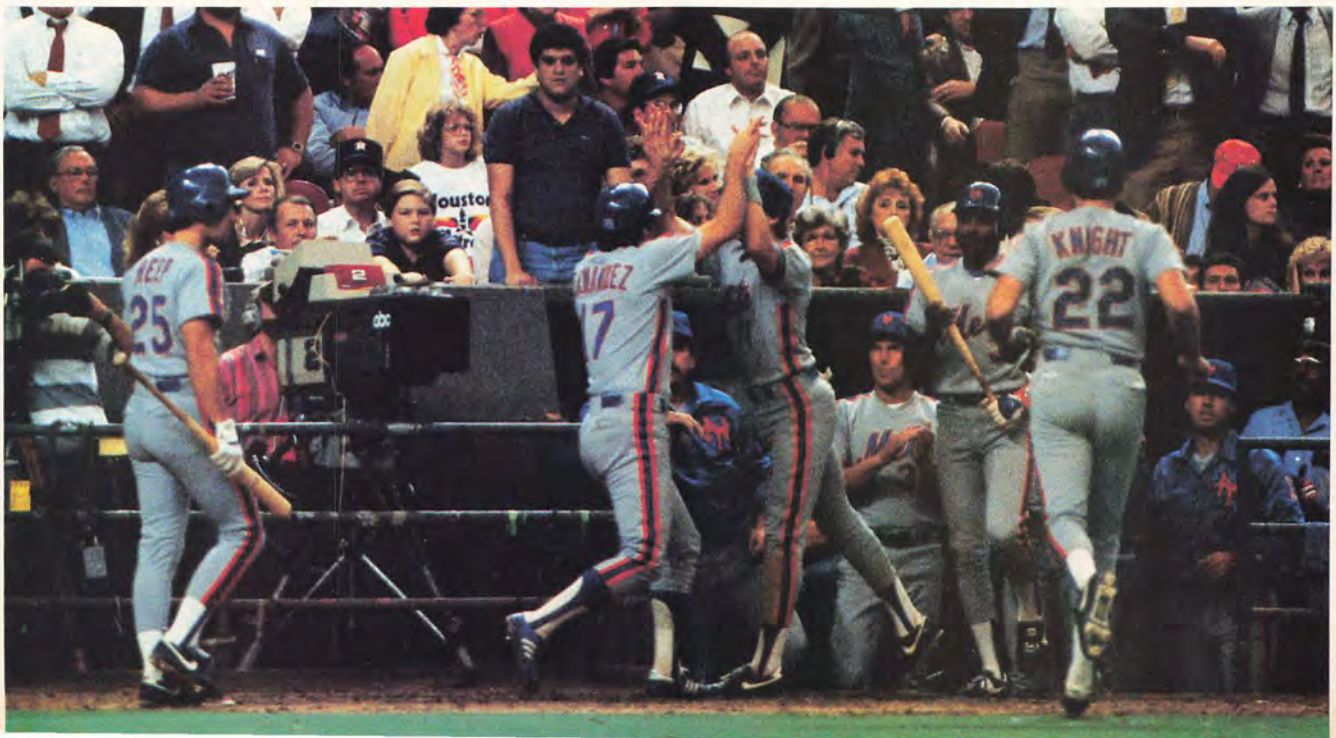
Aguilera had come in to hurl three innings of shutout ball in relief of Ojeda, so it was still 3-0 when the Mets trudged to the plate in the ninth.

"Are there words for this? I don't think so."—*Gary Carter*

"I can't imagine the World Series being any tougher than this."—*Keith Hernandez*

In the 14th, Straw scores to put the Mets ahead . . . temporarily.

Keith hits the dugout after scoring the tying run.



The final out. . . Jesse leaps for joy.

Dykstra hit for Aguilera and lifted a drive toward the right-center field gap, and there was Hatcher making a mad dash and the ball over his head and Lenny winding up at third.

Wilson followed with a little humpbacked liner that, somehow, got over Doran's outstretched glove and bounced into short right-center for a hit. Dykstra was home, but the Mets still needed a bushel more. Mitchell grounded out with Mookie taking second.

Then the key hit: Hernandez' drive to the gap in right-center with Hatcher making a futile try and Mookie making a mad dash to the plate. Suddenly, it was 3-2 with the tying run in scoring position, and Dave Smith relieving the heroic Knepper.

Then, in an agonizing, ten-minute sequence of pitches, both Carter and Strawberry coaxed out walks to load the bases. That brought up Knight, who got two strikes against him, watched one go by that *just* missed, and then lifted a sacrifice fly to right-center, with Hernadez leaping on the plate with the tying run and then hopscotching his way into the delirious Mets dugout.

To extra innings.

And, suddenly, it was the Mets' turn to shackle the opposition. Aggie had retired the last eight batters he faced, then McDowell, in the longest relief stint of his career, would allow only one baserunner in five innings.

Through the 10th, and the 11th, and 12th, nothing. And you kept thinking, How much more? How long can they keep doing this? Do they realize what they're putting us through? What in heaven's name is it going to take?

The Mets thought they had the answer in the 14th. Carter singled and Strawberry walked against Aurelio Lopez. Knight's bunt forced Carter at third, but Backman lined a single to right to plate Straw with the go-ahead run. With a fresh Orosco set to come on for McDowell.

Jesse went right to it, fanning Doran to start the inning. Then Hatcher, and suddenly, there went a drive high and deep and headed straignt for the left field foul pole, with the eyes of Texas upon it and Hatcher backpeddling his way toward first. It hit the net. Tie game.

How much more?

Into the 16th, and never in the history of the game had a postseason contest gone this far. Straw led off against Lopez and there went a looper to short center and Hatcher coming in, coming in and—boing!—having it hit off the turf. Straw to second, and then home on a line single to right by Knight. Then, a wild pitch, passed ball, and single by Dykstra, and there were two more runs and a 7-4 lead.

There, you thought. That's *gotta* be it. And in three outs would come the payback for all those years since the last Mets pennant winner. The years of second division finishes, and seven-game losing streaks, and crowds in four figures. Thirteen years, now whittled down to three outs.

Three outs.

"We showed the world we can dog it out better than anybody, even when we're hitting under 200."
—Davey Johnson

"We still haven't done it yet. We haven't finished what we set out to accomplish this season. We have the second leg but we still need one more."*—Lenny Dykstra*

National League Champions. . .

"I thought that we were going to win. We played as hard as we could. The Mets are a great team. You have to tip your cap to them."

—Billy Hatcher

What I missed by not being in Houston that day may have been less than what I missed by not being in New York. The pennant-clinching celebrations in Boston were happy indeed (about a four on the Roger Scale), but the excruciating prolongation and eventual exultation of the Mets' Game Six were something altogether different—a great public event, on the order of a blackout or an armistice. The game began at 3:06, New York time, and ended at 7:48, and in that stretch millions of Mets fans in and around New York, caught between their daywatch of the game and some other place they had to be, found themselves suspended in baseball's clockless limbo, in a vast, mobile party of anxious watching and listening and sudden release. Sports can bring no greater reward than this, I think. In time, I—like many others, I imagine—began to collect Game Six stories: where folks had been that night, and what they had seen and heard and done during the long game's journey into night. There was no rush hour in New York that evening, I kept hearing: so many office workers stayed in their offices to follow the game that the buses and avenues in midtown looked half empty. Subway riders on the I.R.T. platform at Grand Central heard the score and the inning over the train announcer's loudspeaker. A man I know who was in bed with the flu or something said that he rose to a sitting position during the Mets' rally in the ninth, and then left his bed and paced the floor; when it was over, he got up and dressed and was cured. Another man, a film editor—not at all a fan—was running around the Central Park Reservoir when a strange, all-surrounding noise stopped him in his tracks. It came from everywhere around the Park, he said, and it wasn't a shout or a roar but something closer to a sudden great murmuring of the city: the Mets had won.

—Roger Angell,
The New Yorker

. . . and a League trophy to take back to New York.

Reynolds fanned. Lopes walked, Doran singled, and then Hatcher singled. 7-5, tying runs on. Walling's grounder, too slow for two, forced Hatcher at second. One out left.

Davis singled to center. Another run in. Tying run at second, winning run at first. And one dog-tired pitcher out there. In the 13 years that had passed since the last Mets pennant, their pitchers had recorded 55,725 outs. And now they couldn't get just one more.

Orosco, firing nothing but breaking pitches, ran the count to 3-2 on Bass. No hard stuff here, just go with your best. Jesse had one more breaking ball left in the barrel. He threw it. Bass swung, and the Mets had the out it took 13 years to get.

"Swing and a miss! Swing and a miss! Struck him out! Struck him out! Mets win it! The Mets have won it... They're in the World Series, Saturday night at Shea!"

—Bob Murphy

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Houston	ab	r	h	bi
M. Wlsn, cf	7	1	1	1	Doran, 2b	7	1	2	0
Mitchell, 1f	4	0	0	0	Hatcher, cf	7	2	3	2
Elster, ss	3	0	0	0	Garner, 3b	3	1	1	1
Hrndz, 1b	7	1	1	1	Walling, 3b	4	0	0	0
Carter, c	5	0	2	0	Davis, 1b	7	1	3	2
Strwbry, cf	5	2	1	0	Bass, rf	6	0	1	0
Knight, 3b	6	1	1	2	Cruz, 1f	6	0	1	1
Teufel, 2b	3	0	1	0	Ashby, c	6	0	0	0
Bckmn, 2b	2	1	1	1	Thon, ss	3	0	0	0
Santana, ss	3	0	1	0	Rynlds, ss	3	0	0	0
Heep, ph	1	0	0	0	Knepper, p	2	0	0	0
McDwll, p	1	0	0	0	Smith, p	0	0	0	0
Jhnsn, ph	1	0	0	0	Puhl, ph	1	0	0	0
Orosco, p	0	0	0	0	Andrs, p	0	0	0	0
Ojeda, p	1	0	0	0	Pankvts, ph	1	0	0	0
Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0	Lopez, p	0	0	0	0
Aguilera, p.	0	0	0	0	Calhoun, p	0	0	0	0
Dykstra, cf	4	1	2	1	Lopes, ph	0	1	0	0
Totals	**54**	**7**	**11**	**6**	**Totals**	**56**	**6**	**11**	**6**

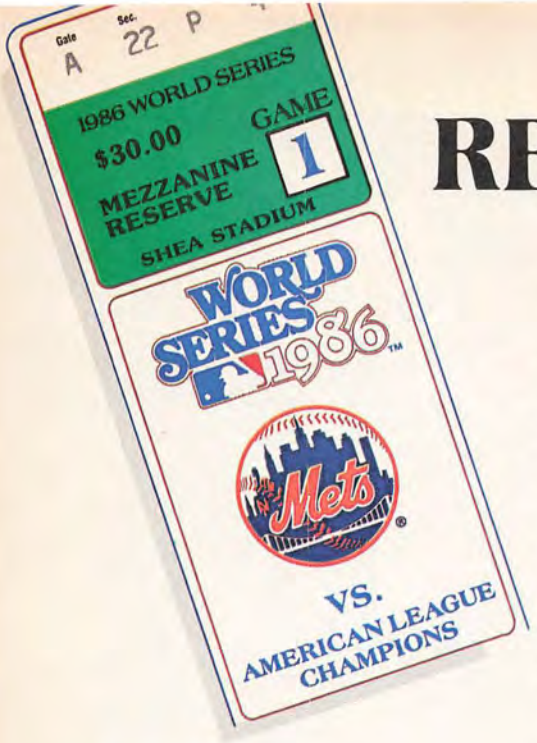
New York	**000**	**000**	**003**	**000**	**010**	**3 — 7**
Houston	**300**	**000**	**000**	**000**	**010**	**2 — 6**

GWRBI—Knight (1). E—Bass. DP—Houston 2. LOB—New York 9, Houston 5. 2B—Garner, Davis, Hernandez, Strawberry. 3B—Dykstra. HR—Hatcher (1). SB—Doran (2). S—Orosco. SF—Knight.

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ojeda	5	5	3	3	2	1
Aguilera	3	1	0	0	0	1
McDowell	5	1	0	0	0	2
Orosco, W 3-0	3	4	3	3	1	5
Houston						
Knepper	8⅓	5	3	3	1	6
Smith	1⅔	0	0	0	3	2
Andersen	3	0	0	0	1	1
Lopez, L 0-1	2	5	3	3	2	2
Calhoun	1	1	1	1	1	0

Lopez pitched to 2 batters in the 16th.

WP—Calhoun 2. Umpires—HP, Brocklander, 1B, Harvey; 2B, Weyer; 3B, Pulli; Left, Rennett; Right, West. T—4:42. A—45,718.



RED SOX 1, METS 0

World Series. Shea Stadium. The last time those two terms had been linked together, Dwight Gooden was all of eight years old, a Series ticket cost $15 instead of $30, and only one man from the Mets' most recent championship club—Tom Seaver—was active in the major leagues.

And, irony of ironies, *he* was in the other dugout this time. The one that belonged to the Red Sox. . . and the one that, by the end of the night's proceedings, was one damn happy place to be.

Ron Darling, who lived and died with the Sox while growing up in New England, hooked up against the Sox' ace lefty, Bruce Hurst. And through six innings, both hurlers hung zeroes on two of the best hitting teams in the game. Only once in that time could the Sox put two men on against Darling, who recorded seven Ks during the span. The Mets were able to nick Hurst for four hits and four walks, but couldn't bunch them together.

The break the Sox needed came in the seventh. Jim Rice walked, and went to second when Darling uncorked a wild pitch. With one out, Rich Gedman hit a roller to the right side that. . . Oops! . . . got through the wickets on Tim Teufel to enable Rice to score. Those of us with long memories immediately flashed back to the first game of the '73 Series against Oakland, when another Met second baseman—Felix Millan—was victimized on an identical play that allowed the deciding run to score.

"That Hurst is a tough cookie. He mixed his pitches well and threw strikes."

—Davey Johnson

"The ball just scooted on me. I didn't get the glove down and with a man on second there's no excuse for that."

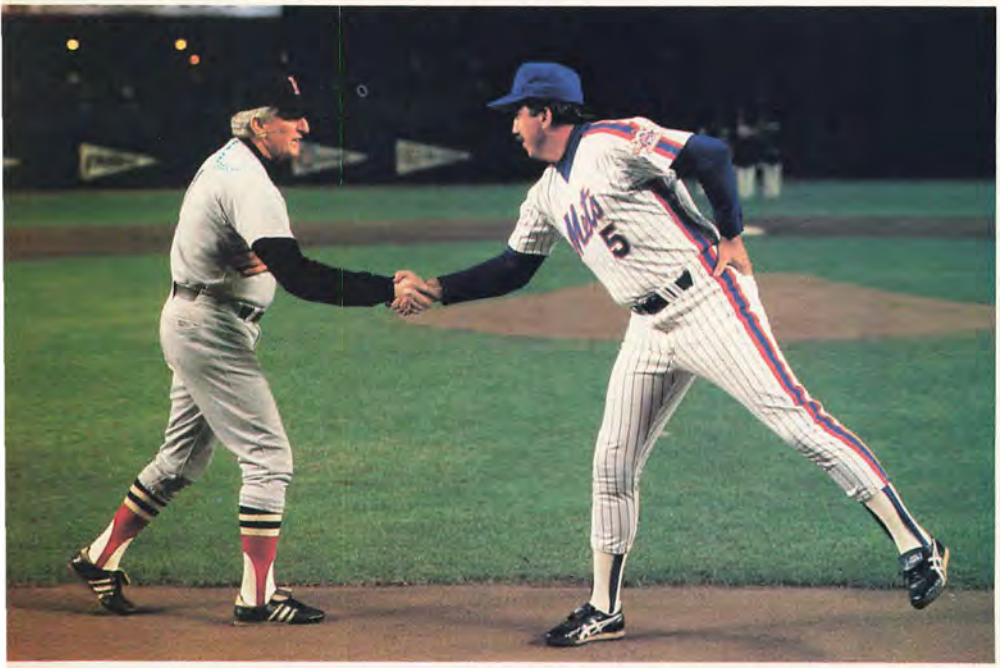
—Tim Teufel

And again here. Hurst left after eight innings, blanking the Mets on four hits while fanning eight. McDowell got out of a nasty bases-loaded jam in the top of the ninth. In the Mets' half, they gave it one last shot when Strawberry led off with a walk against reliever Calvin Schiraldi. But Calvin went on to hold his ex-teammates right there, inducing Knight to bunt into a force at second, getting Backman on a fly ball and punching out Danny Heep, to enable Boston to draw first blood.

"You can't win unless you score some runs."

—Wally Backman

Rival managers McNamara and Johnson.



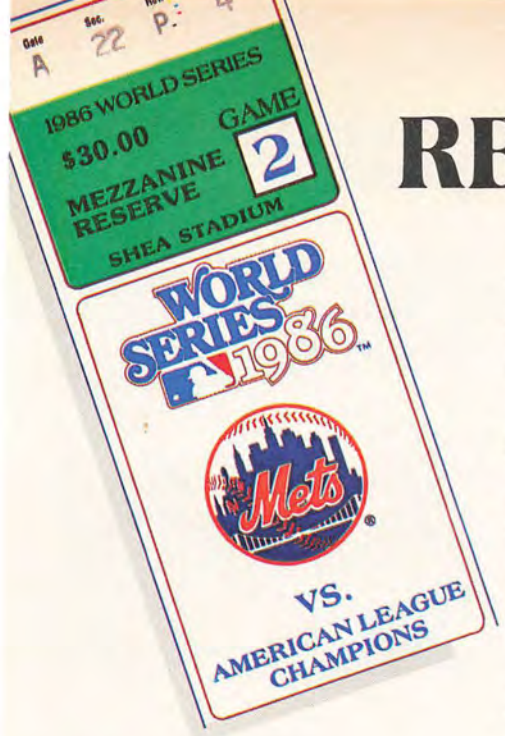
Boston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Boggs, 3b	4	0	0	0	M. Wlsn, lf	4	0	1	0
Barrett, 2b	4	0	1	0	McDwll, p	0	0	0	0
Bucknr, 1b	4	0	1	0	Dykstra, cf	3	0	0	0
Stapltn, 1b	0	0	0	0	Hrndz, 1b	3	0	0	0
Rice, lf	2	1	1	0	Carter, c	4	0	1	0
Evans, rf	3	0	0	0	Strwbry, rf	2	0	0	0
Gedman, c	4	0	0	0	Knight, 3b	3	0	0	0
Hndrsn, cf	4	0	2	0	Teufel, 2b	3	0	2	0
Owen, ss	2	0	0	0	Bckmn, 2b	1	0	0	0
Hurst, p	3	0	0	0	Santana, ss	2	0	0	0
Grnwell, ph	1	0	0	0	Heep, ph	1	0	0	0
Schiraldi, p	0	0	0	0	Darling, p	2	0	0	0
					Mitchell, lf	1	0	0	0
Totals	**31**	**1**	**5**	**0**	**Totals**	**29**	**0**	**4**	**0**

Boston							**000**	**000**	**100**	**— 1**
New York							**000**	**000**	**000**	**— 0**

GWRBI—None. E—Teufel. DP—Boston 1, New York 1. LOB—Boston 8, New York 8. SB—Wilson (1), Strawberry (1). S—Santana.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hurst, W 1-0	8	4	0	0	4	8
Schiraldi, S 1	1	0	0	0	1	1
New York						
Darling, L 0-1	7	3	1	0	3	8
McDowell	2	2	0	0	2	0

WP—Darling. Umpires—HP, Kibler (NL); 1B, Evans (AL); 2B, Wendelstedt (NL); 3B, Brinkman (AL); Left, Montague (NL); Right, Ford (AL). T—2:59. A—55,076.



RED SOX 9, METS 3

Trouble. Real trouble.

Those going to Shea expecting a tight pitchers duel between Roger Clemens and Dwight Gooden in Game Two were sorely disappointed. So were those who expected the Mets to bounce back from the first game loss. Boston pounded out 18 hits against five Mets pitchers and won going away, 9-3.

The Sox parlayed a walk, an error and RBI hits by Wade Boggs, Marty Barrett and Bill Buckner into three runs off Doc in the third. After the Mets scrambled for two in their half, the Sox decided the issue on a solo homer by Dave Henderson in the fourth and a two-run blast by Dwight Evans in the fifth.

New York was able to chase Clemens with another run in the fifth, but Steve Crawford and Bob Stanley combined to allow just three hits over the final 4.2 innings. The Sox strung together five straight hits for two runs against Rick Aguilera in the seventh, Boggs doubled home another in the ninth, and that was that.

And, of course, the historians chipped in with the fact that only the year before, the Royals had lost the first two games of the Series at home and had come back to win the whole thing. Which made you feel a little better, until you realized that, in the 83-year history of the Series, that had been the ONLY time it had ever been done.

You could look at it any way you wanted. The fact was that the Mets were in one deep hole.

"We know we won't keep playing like this."

—Lenny Dykstra

Action at first. . . Dave Henderson gets back.

"I can't dwell on it, or it might lead to a terrible slump. Besides, if we cry like babies over what is happening, the Series will be all over."

—Darryl Strawberry

Dwight Gooden

Boston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Boggs, 3b	5	1	2	2	Dykstra, cf	3	0	1	0
Barrett, 2b	5	0	2	1	Bckmn, 2b	3	1	2	1
Buckner, 1b	5	0	2	1	Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	1
Stapltn, 1b	1	0	0	0	Carter, c	4	0	1	1
Rice, lf	6	2	3	0	Strwbry, rf	4	0	0	0
Evans, rf	4	2	2	2	Heep, lf	2	0	0	0
Gedman, c	5	0	1	0	Aguilera, p	0	0	0	0
Hndrsn, cf	5	2	3	2	Orosco, p	0	0	0	0
Owen, ss	4	1	3	1	Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0
Romero, ss	0	0	0	0	Frndz, p	0	0	0	0
Clemens, p	1	1	0	0	Sisk, p	0	0	0	0
Crawfrd, p	1	0	0	0	Jhnsn, 3b	4	0	0	0
Grnwll, ph	1	0	0	0	Santana, ss	4	1	2	0
Stanley, p	1	0	0	0	Gooden, p	2	1	1	0
					M.Wlsn, lf	2	0	0	0
Totals	**44**	**9**	**18**	**9**	**Totals**	**33**	**3**	**8**	**3**

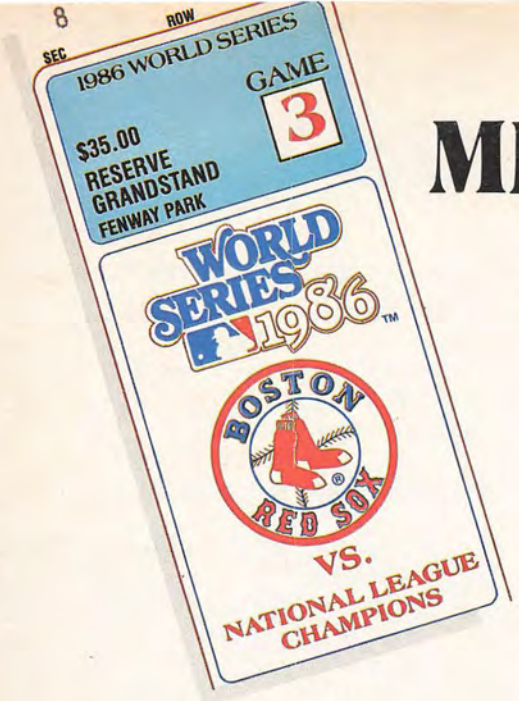
Boston	**003**	**120**	**201 — 9**
New York	**002**	**010**	**000 — 3**

GWRBI—Boggs (1). E—Hernandez. DP—New York 1. LOB—Boston 13, New York 9. 2B—Boggs 2. HR—Henderson (1), Evans (1). S—Dykstra, Clemens.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clemens	4⅓	5	3	3	4	3
Crawford, W 1-0	1⅔	1	0	0	0	2
Stanley, S 1	3	2	0	0	1	3
New York						
Gooden, L 0-1	5	8	6	5	2	6
Aguilera	1	5	2	2	1	1
Orosco	2	2	0	0	0	3
Fernandez	⅓	3	1	1	0	1
Sisk	⅔	0	0	0	1	1

Aguilera pitched to 5 batters in the 7th.

Umpires—HP, Evans; 1B, Wendelstedt; 2B, Brinkman; 3B, Montague; Left, Ford; Right, Kibler. T—3:36. A—55,063.



METS 7, RED SOX 1

"We certainly didn't play well at home and having a good off day certainly helped the intensity on the ballclub. I had a good off day, too. I took a nap and had some nice oysters."
—Davey Johnson

Somehow, you knew.

You knew it on the plane trip up to Boston. You knew it when you walked into the hotel lobby and saw the Red Sox caps and the newspaper headlines that read "Sweep Dreams!" You knew it when you walked into Fenway Park on the off day, the marvelous old place empty and silent because Davey caused that little stir by not having a workout.

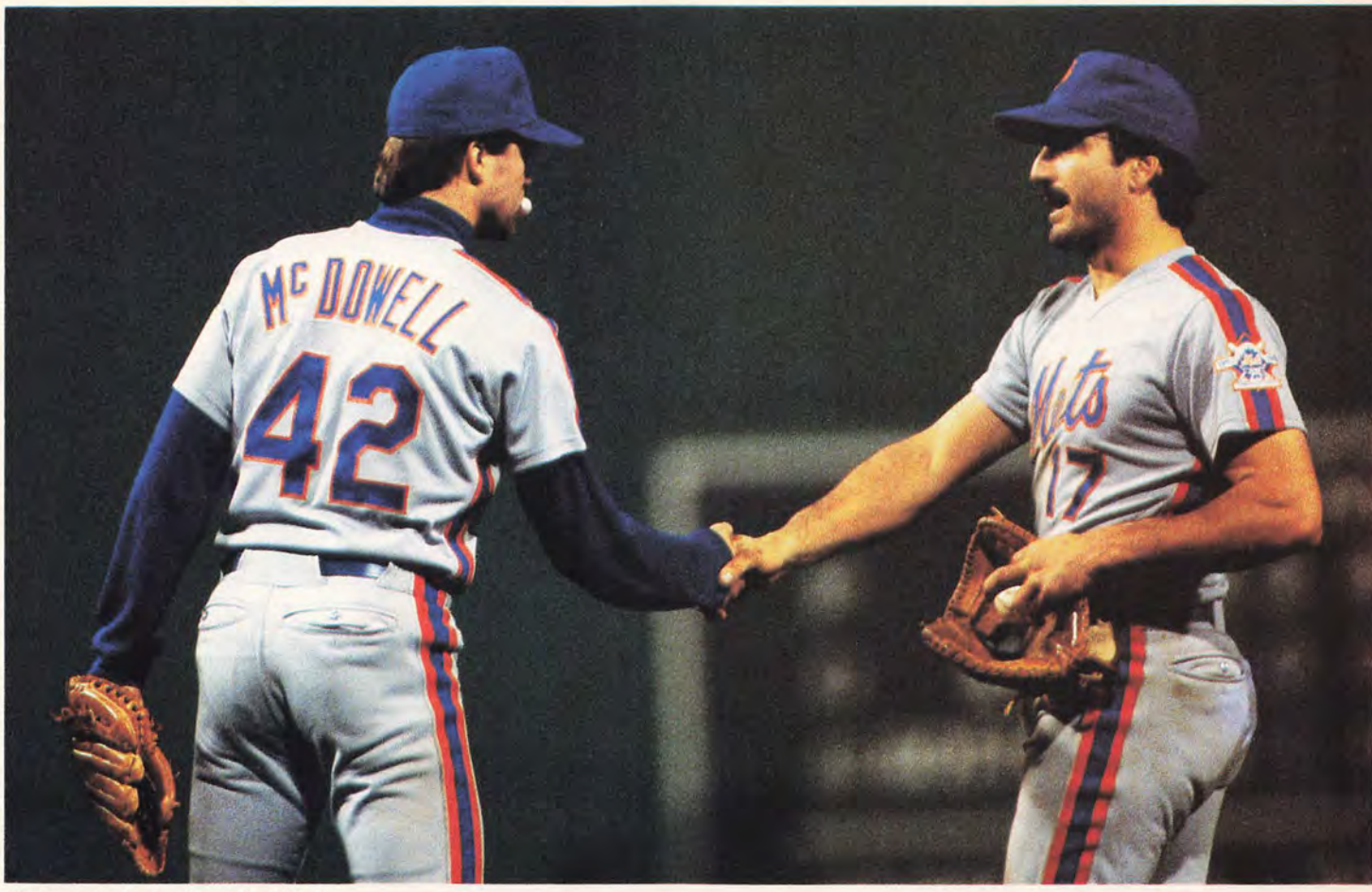
You knew that the Mets were not going to go quietly in this World Series, that somehow their magnificent season would not end in Boston. Don't ask how, but you just knew it.

"Any time a club gets four runs before your pitcher takes the mound, he goes out there with four-run confidence."
—Dave Henderson

Bobby O.

And then Lenny Dykstra led off Game Three with a drive that curled around the right field foul pole and gave the Mets an instant 1-0 lead against Oil Can Boyd. And then Backman singled, and Hernandez, and then Carter doubled off The Wall in left center, and after that botched rundown play, Danny Heep ripped a two-run single, and it was 4-0 and suddenly *everybody* knew that the Mets were all right again.

Keith & Gary and the old 2-men-on-third play.



McDowell closes it out for Ojeda.

This time, they gave the ball to Ojeda, who had spent the last two days listening to everybody ask how it would be to face his old buddies and how Fenway is death to lefthanders and all that. But if anyone had cared to look, they'd have discovered that, during his tenure with the BoSox, Bobby had posted the tenth-best winning percentage of any Boston lefthander at Fenway Park.

And in Game Three he showed why. He was masterful. With the Mets' entire season riding on his left arm, he allowed just five hits and a lone run in seven innings' work, fanning six. The only run the Red Sox were to get all night came on Marty Barrett's RBI single in the third.

"Bobby was outstanding. It didn't hurt that he grew up in this ballpark. He had a little extra incentive, not only because it was a crucial game for us but because it was against his former teammates. He was just outstanding. It was his type ball game; he kept the ball down and threw the guys off." ***—Gary Carter***

"It's kind of weird that I'm back here for the World Series. I left here a year ago with a pretty good idea I'd be traded. People asked, 'What do you think you'll be doing next year?' This is the best example. I'd be lying if I said it wasn't special."
—Bob Ojeda

By the time McDowell came in to finish, the Mets had made it 7-1 as Carter singled home two runs off Boyd in the seventh and Knight doubled home another off Joe Sambito in the eighth. Roger retired all six Red Sox to face him to close it out, and the Mets had won their first World Series game after four straight losses. They were alive again. And somehow, you just knew they would be.

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Dykstra, cf	5	2	4	1	Boggs, 3b	3	0	1	0
Bckmn, 2b	5	1	1	0	Barrett, 2b	4	0	2	1
Hrndz, 1b	4	1	2	0	Buckner, 1b	4	0	0	0
Carter, c	5	1	2	3	Rice, lf	3	0	0	0
Strwbry, rf	4	1	1	0	Baylor, dh	4	0	1	0
Knight, 3b	4	0	1	1	Evans, rf	4	0	0	0
Heep, dh	3	0	1	2	Gedman, c	4	0	0	0
Mitchell, ph	0	0	0	0	Hndrsn, cf	2	1	1	0
Mazzilli, ph	1	0	0	0	Owen, ss	3	0	0	0
M. Wlsn, cf	4	0	0	0					
Santana, ss	4	1	1	0					
Totals	**39**	**7**	**13**	**7**	**Totals**	**31**	**1**	**5**	**1**

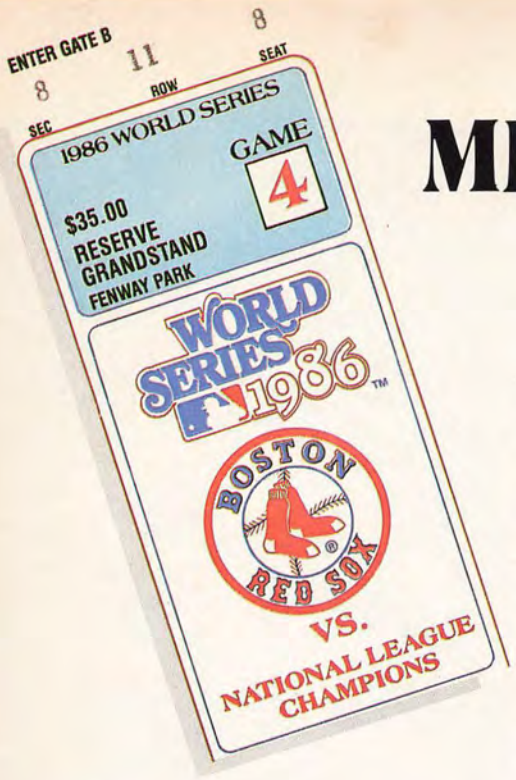
New York						**400**	**000**	**210**	**—**	**7**
Boston						**001**	**000**	**000**	**—**	**1**

GWRBI—Dykstra (1). DP—New York 1, Boston 1. LOB—New York 6, Boston 6. 2B—Carter, Baylor, Knight. HR—Dykstra (1).

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Ojeda, W 1-0	7	5	1	1	3	6
McDowell	2	0	0	0	0	0
Boston						
Boyd, L 0-1	7	9	6	6	1	3
Sambito	0	2	1	1	0	0
Stanley	2	2	0	0	0	1

Sambito pitched to 2 batters in the 8th.

WP—Ojeda. PB—Gedman. Umpires—HP, Wendelstedt (NL); 1B, Brinkman (AL); 2B, Montague (NL); 3B, Ford (AL); Left, Kibler (NL); Right, Evans (AL). T—2:58. A—33,595.



METS 6, RED SOX 2

Ronnie and The Kid had themselves a game.

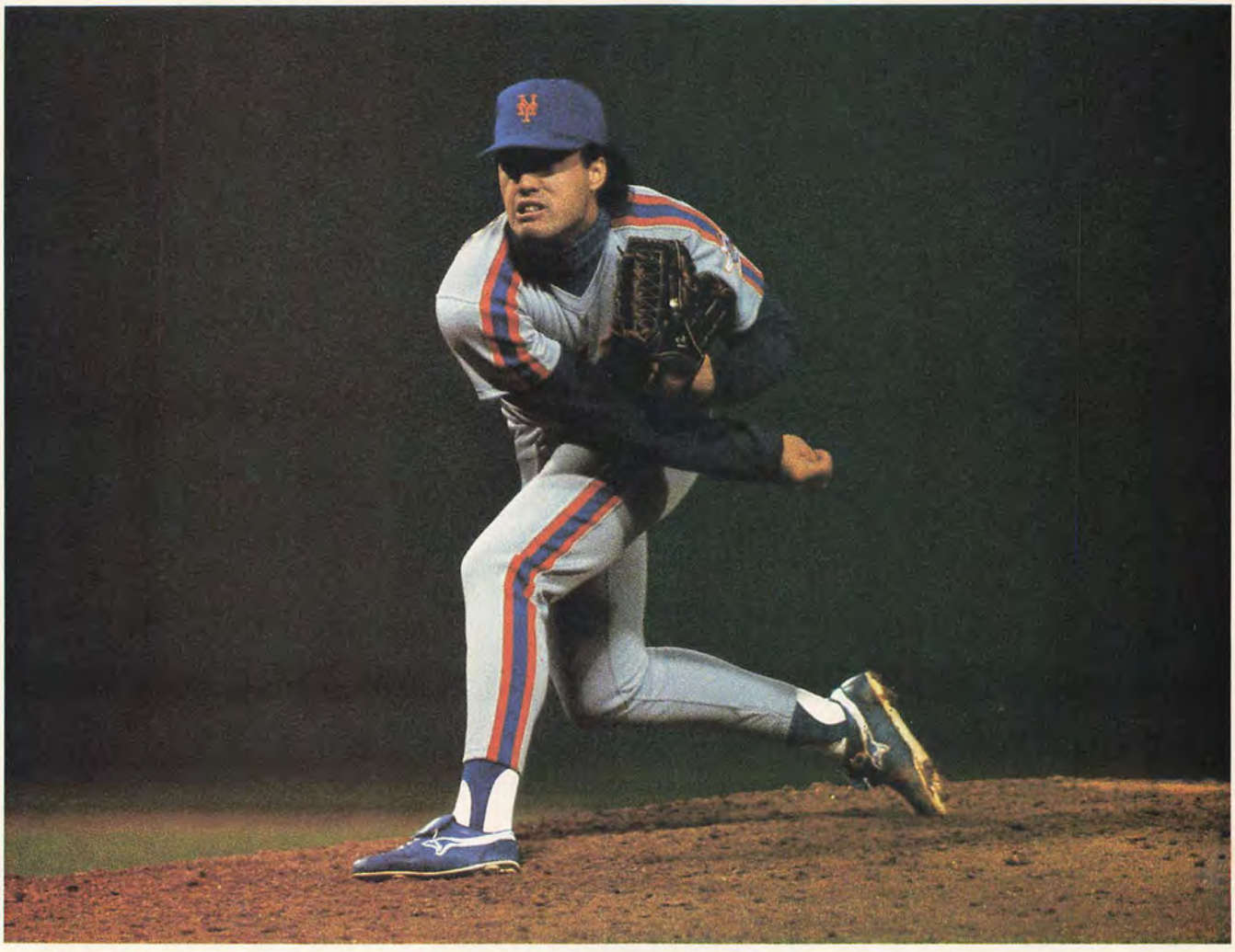
Darling continued his postseason mastery. Before a sea of friends and relatives at Fenway, he shut out the Red Sox over seven innings, scattering four harmless hits. He escaped a bases-loaded jam in the first, left runners stranded at the corners in the fifth, and was helped out in the sixth when Mookie's throw from left field nailed Rich Gedman at second and halted a Boston threat. Six walks added up to 115 pitches through seven, and it was time for the bullpen to finish it. By that time, Carter had decided the issue on the offensive side.

"Gary has always been a big-game player. He rises to the occasion. He's like a Reggie Jackson that way. He's the closest thing we have to a Mr. October. When the spotlight is brightest, he's at his best"

—Keith Hernandez

Red Sox starter Al Nipper held the Mets scoreless for the first three. Then, in the fourth, with Backman at

The Kid comes home.



Ron Darling.

"I think we all took a step back and looked at ourselves and said 'What am I doing? I've got to stay within myself.' That's why we've come back."

—Wally Backman

second and one out, Gary launched a drive into the netting atop the Green Monster for his first career World Series homer, and a lead the Mets would never lose.

"There are many great players with great careers who haven't had the chance to play in a Series. To me this is the thrill of a lifetime...the ultimate for my 12 years in the majors."

—Gary Carter

Dykstra provided Darling with breathing room in the seventh when, with one out and Mookie at second, his drive to the low wall in right was gloved for an instant by the leaping Evans...until the ball popped out of the webbing of Dwight's glove and plopped in the bullpen. Home run.

Kid finished the scoring in the eighth against Steve Crawford, with a majestic drive to left-center...over The Wall, over the screen, over everything and deep into the blackness of the New England night. 6-0.

Boston threw a momentary scare into the Mets, though, with three hits and a pair of runs against McDowell in the eighth. Orosco came on to force Boggs to ground out to end the inning. And in the ninth, Jesse got Barrett and Buckner on grounders for the first two outs. Then Rice went down swinging, and suddenly the World Series was best-of-three.

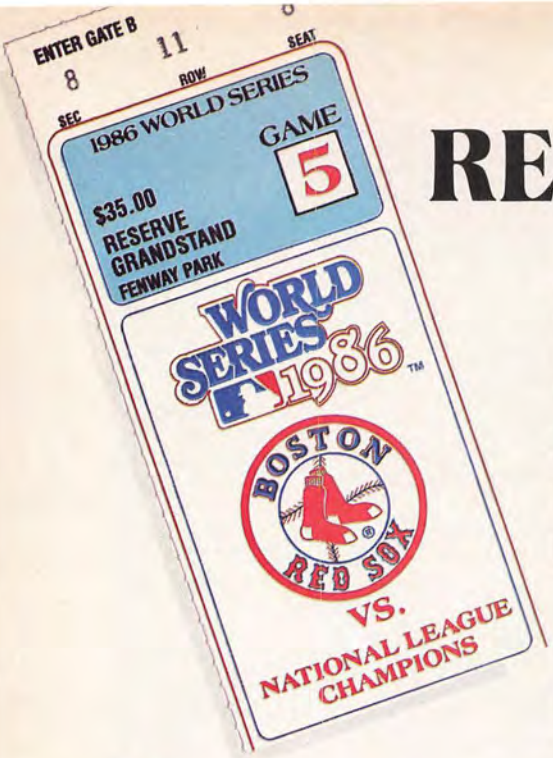
New York	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Dykstra, cf	5	1	1	2	Boggs, 3b	5	0	0	0
Bckmn, 2b	4	1	2	0	Barrett, 2b	4	0	2	0
Hrndz, 1b	3	0	0	0	Bucknr, 1b	5	0	0	0
Carter, c	4	2	3	3	Rice, lf	4	1	1	0
Strwbry rf	4	1	2	0	Baylor, dh	3	0	0	0
Knight, 3b	4	0	2	1	Evans, rf	3	1	1	1
Heep, dh	4	0	0	0	Gedman, c	4	0	3	0
M. Wlsn, lf	4	1	2	0	Hndrsn, cf	3	0	0	1
Santana, ss	4	0	0	0	Owen, ss	1	0	0	0
					Grnwll, ph	0	0	0	0
					Romero, ss	0	0	0	0
Totals	**36**	**6**	**12**	**6**	**Totals**	**32**	**2**	**7**	**2**

New York						**000**	**300**	**210**	**—**	**6**
Boston						**000**	**000**	**020**	**—**	**2**

GWRBI—Carter (1). E—Gedman. DP—Boston 3. LOB—New York 4, Boston 11. 2B—Barrett, Gedman, Strawberry, Carter, Rice. HR—Carter 2 (2). Dykstra (2). SB—Backman (1), Wilson 2 (3). SF—Henderson.

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Darling, W 1-1	7	4	0	0	6	4
McDowell	⅔	3	2	2	1	0
Orosco, S 1	1⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Boston						
Nipper, L 0-1	6	7	3	3	1	2
Crawford	2	4	3	3	0	2
Stanley	1	1	0	0	0	0

Umpires—HP, Brinkman (AL); 1B, Montague (NL); 2B, Ford (AL); 3B, Kibler (NL); Left, Evans (AL); Right, Wendelstedt (NL). T—3:22. A—33,920.



RED SOX 4, METS 2

Will the Mets' bubble burst?

Back to earth. And back in trouble.

Once again, the Mets proved no match for Bruce Hurst, who scattered ten hits in a complete game effort to post his second victory of the Series. Final: 4-2.

Doc Gooden started for New York, and got out of a bases-loaded spot in the first by inducing Evans to fly to left. He wasn't as lucky in the second, as the Sox put their first run on the board on a triple by Henderson and Spike Owen's sacrifice fly. An error, walk and RBI single by Evans made it 2-0 an inning later.

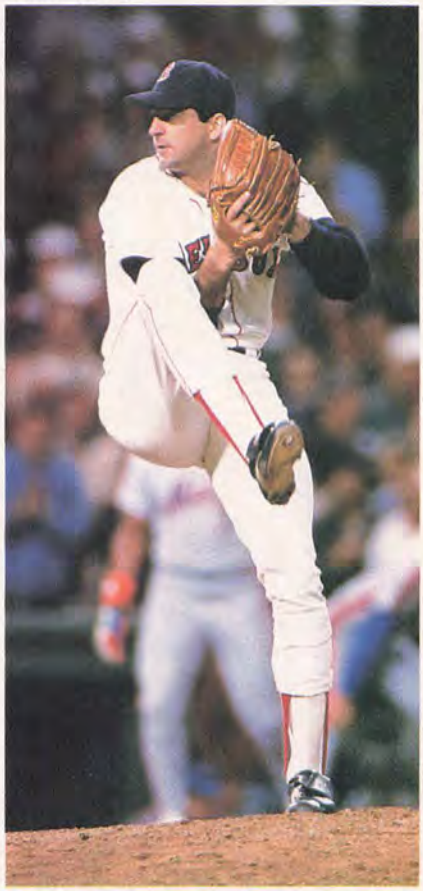
Leadoff singles by Kevin Mitchell and Mookie Wilson gave the Mets a hopeful rush in the fifth, but Hurst wriggled out of the jam. Having dodged the bullet, Boston put the game away in their half. Rice led off with a triple off the stump of the center field wall, and, three hits later, the Sox had a 4-0 lead, Gooden out of the game, and the verdict.

Hurst allowed a homer to Teufel in the eighth. In the ninth, Mookie doubled with two out and Santana singled him home. But Hurst, with the tying run at the plate, fanned Dykstra to move the Red Sox one win away from their first world title in 68 years.

The Mets, of course, did what they had to do: move the series back home. But they also got on the plane at Logan Airport knowing full well that this better be their last loss of the season. Or else.

"We came here two down. And we had to win at least two out of three to get it back to Shea, and that's what we did."
—Davey Johnson

Bruce Hurst.



"I didn't think I had my best stuff. I was getting some pitches up. I just kept trying to change speeds and mix things up. I know I can't overpower anybody."—*Bruce Hurst*

"It felt like every time I stepped into the box, the count was 0-2."
—Lenny Dykstra

New York	ab	r	h	bi	Boston	ab	r	h	bi
Dykstra cf	5	0	1	0	Boggs, 3b	5	0	2	0
Teufel, 2b	4	1	2	1	Barrett, 2b	4	0	2	0
Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	0	Bucknr, 1b	5	1	1	0
Carter, c	4	0	0	0	Stapltn, 1b	0	0	0	0
Strwbry rf	4	0	1	0	Rice, 1f	3	1	2	0
Knight, 3b	4	0	1	0	Baylor, dh	3	1	1	1
Mitchell, dh	4	0	1	0	Evans, rf	4	0	2	1
M. Wlsn, 1f	4	1	2	0	Gedman, c	4	0	0	0
Santana, ss	2	0	1	1	Hndrsn, cf	4	1	2	1
					0 Owen, ss	3	0	0	1
Totals	**35**	**2**	**10**	**2**	**Totals**	**35**	**4**	**12**	**4**

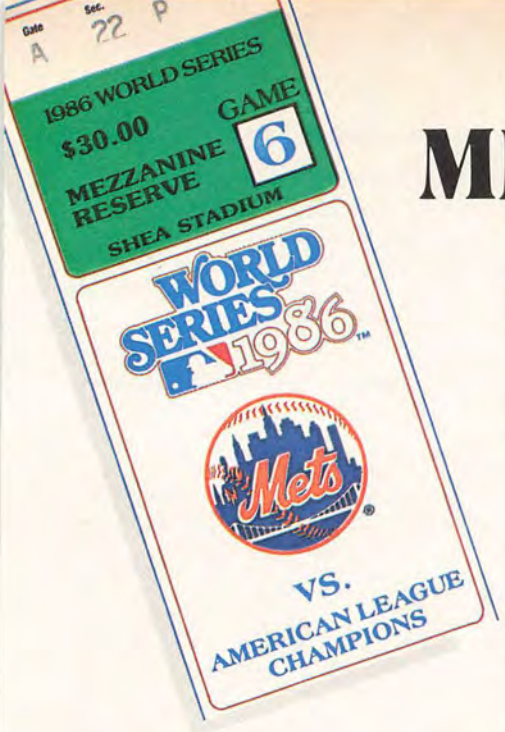
New York	**000 000 011 — 2**
Boston	**011 020 00x — 4**

GWRBI—Owen (1). E—Santana. DP—Boston 1. LOB—New York 8, Boston 11. 2B—Teufel, Henderson, Barrett, Wilson. 3B—Henderson, Rice. HR—Teufel (1). S—Santana. SF-Owen.

New York	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Gooden, L 0-2	4	9	4	3	2	3
Fernandez	4	3	0	0	0	5
Boston						
Hurst, W 2-0	9	10	2	2	1	6

Gooden pitched to 3 batters in the 5th.

HBP—Baylor by Gooden. Umpires—HP, Montague (NL); 1B, Ford (AL); 2B, Kibler (NL); 3B, Evans (AL); Left, Wendelstedt (NL); Right, Brinkman (AL). T—3:09. A—34,010.



METS 6, RED SOX 5 (10)

Months, years, decades from now, all somebody has to do is say "Game Six", and you'll know exactly what they're talking about.

Back home again, the Mets found themselves behind again. Boston jumped on Ojeda for single runs in the first (Evans RBI double) and second (Barrett RBI single) to take a 2-0 lead. But after retiring the Mets without a hit through the first four innings, Clements was clipped for a pair of runs in the fifth, with Knight and Wilson providing the key hits. (By evening's end, of course, all that would somehow be forgotten).

With McDowell in for Ojeda, Boston scored an unearned run to forge ahead in the seventh. Barrett walked and, with one out, was able to scamper to third when Knight's throw on Rice's grounder sailed off Hernandez' glove. McDowell got exactly what he wanted out of Evans: a ground ball...but the Mets were a split-second too late in turning over an inning-ending double play, and Barrett crossed the plate to give the Sox a 3-2 lead.

"I didn't know if Ray could score, until the ball got through and nobody went after it. Then I knew it was over and there would be a seventh game."
—Mookie Wilson

"My heart was breaking. Down two runs and two outs and the next thing I know we win the game."*—Rick Aguilera*

Clemens retired the Mets in order in the seventh. Now, six outs from extinction, the Mets faced Schiraldi in the eighth. Lee Mazzilli led off by grounding a pinch single to right. Dykstra laid down a bunt, and when the throw to second was too late to nab Mazzilli, it was all hands safe. Backman bunted the runners along, Hernandez was intentionally walked, and it brought up Carter.

And The Kid came through. He hit it on the nose, lined it to left field. Rice made the catch and Mazzilli, arms upraised in celebration, tagged and raced home with the tying run. It was the most important at-bat of Carter's career...until his next one, of course.

"I have one rule in hitting and that is, 'Thou shalt not pass without offering', and that's what I did."*—Mookie Wilson*

...then Kevin scores...

Shortstop Kevin Elster's error gave the Red Sox a one-out baserunner in the ninth, but Kevin instantly redeemed himself one batter later, turning over a marvelous pivot on an inning-ending double play.

The unbelievable 10th: Carter scores...

. . .then Mookie's grounder. . .

"And a ground ball, trickling, it is a. . .fair ball. . .Gets by Buckner! Rounding third, heading home is Knight! The Mets will win the ballgame! The Mets win! They win!"
—Bob Murphy

The Mets seemed poised to win it in the bottom of the ninth. Knight led off with a walk and Wilson dumped a bunt in front of the plate. Gedman grabbed it and fired down to second for the force on Knight, but his throw was an eyelash high and pulled Owen off the bag. Winning run at second with none out.

And there it stayed. Schiraldi fanned Johnson on a check swing, then got Maz and Dykstra to sky to left. The 1986 Mets would have their fate decided in extra innings.

It didn't take long. Henderson led off the Boston tenth against Aguilera and sent a drive high and deep toward the left field corner. As you watched the ball leap over the infield, and the Mets cock their heads back, and the Red Sox hurdle to the top step of the dugout, you knew. It hit the signboard below the auxiliary scoreboard and bounced back onto the field. 5-4, Boston. And a few minutes later it was 6-4, courtesy of a two-out RBI single by Barrett.

The Mets had 2-3-4 to hit against Schiraldi in the tenth, so of course there was a chance. But Backman flied to left and Hernandez flied to center, and suddenly there was no chance.

"We had the game won. Games like this haunt you for a while, but we have the class to come back."—*Dave Henderson*

Funny what went through your mind at that point. It was one heck of a season, you said, one unmatched in the history of this club. And they had delivered a pennant, the first in 13 years, after being in last place only three years before. And there would be a trophy, and rings, and a pennant for the flagpole next Opening Day. And what was so wrong with that? OK, so they'd be turned back in the Series this year, but that would be next year's goal, and maybe. . .

Maybe. . .

Maybe, like they say, a game is never over until. . .

Carter lashed a single to left. Mitchell, called out of the clubhouse to pinch-hit, lined a single to center to send Carter to second.

Knight now, and the count went to 0-2. One strike away. Schiraldi tried to

. . .sends Knight home.

On to Game Seven!

bust Ray inside, and the ball was halfway by him, when Knight flicked his bat out and muscled it *just* over Barrett's head and into center. And there was Carter, scoring and pointing at Wilson, the on-deck hitter, and Mitchell crossing to third.

Bob Stanley to relieve now. Wilson stepped in, with the stadium a cauldron of noise pleading for one more hit. The count went to 2-2, then Mookie *just did* (by half an inch, maybe?) get his bat on the next two pitches to foul them off and stay alive. Then a fast ball, tailing in,*way* in, and Mookie jack-knifing out of the way, and the ball glancing off Gedman's glove, and back towards the screen.

For a moment, everything stopped. You saw what was happening, but didn't react right away. The crowd was late letting its roar out. Mitchell, ten feet off the bag at third, froze dead in his tracks, actually took a step *back* toward third, before, finally, he saw Mookie frantically waving his arms. And here he came, and halfway down you thought maybe they'd have a play on him. Then your eyes went to the backstop on the first base side, and Gedman still hadn't gotten to the ball, then back to the plate and Mitchell crossing.

And Knight on second, the winning run.

Another foul, then another, lined up the third base line. Finally, Mookie swung and dribbled one toward first. It bounced once, bounced twice, hugged the ground, and there was Buckner looking behind him and Knight rounding third and all hell breaking loose.

"When I jumped on the plate, I hurt my back and my knee was hurting me and then about a thousand pounds jumped on me. My legs are trembling right now."—*Ray Knight*

""If one picture is worth a thousand words, you have seen about a million words."
—Vin Scully

Boston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Boggs, 3b	5	2	3	0	Dykstra, cf	4	0	0	0
Barrett, 2b	4	1	3	2	Bckmn, 2b	4	0	1	0
Bucknr, 1b	5	0	0	0	Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	0
Rice, lf	5	0	0	0	Carter, c	4	1	1	1
Evans, rf	4	0	1	2	Strwbry, rf	2	1	0	0
Gedman, c	5	0	1	0	Aguilera, p	0	0	0	0
Hndrsn, cf	5	1	2	1	Mitchell, ph	1	1	1	0
Owen, ss	4	1	3	0	Knight, 3b	4	2	2	2
Clemens, p	3	0	0	0	M. Wlsn, lf	5	0	1	0
Grnwell, ph	1	0	0	0	Santana, ss	1	0	0	0
Schiraldi, p	1	0	0	0	Heep, ph	1	0	0	0
Stanley, p	0	0	0	0	Elster, ss	1	0	0	0
					Jhnsn, ss	1	0	0	0
					Ojeda, p	2	0	0	0
					McDwll, p	0	0	0	0
					Orosco, p	0	0	0	0
					Mazzilli, rf	2	1	1	0
Totals	**42**	**5**	**13**	**5**	**Totals**	**36**	**6**	**8**	**3**

Boston	**110**	**000**	**100**	**2 — 5**
New York	**000**	**020**	**010**	**3 — 6**

Two outs when winning run scored.

GWRBI—None. E—Evans, Knight, Elster, Gedman, Buckner. DP—Boston 1, New York 1. LOB—Boston 14, New York 8. 2B—Evans, Boggs, HR—Henderson (2). SB—Strawberry 2 (3). S—Owen, Dykstra, Backman. SF—Carter.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Clemens	7	4	2	1	2	8
Schiraldi, L 0-1	2⅔	4	4	3	2	1
Stanley	0	0	0	0	0	0
New York						
Ojeda	6	8	2	2	2	3
McDowell	1⅔	2	1	0	3	1
Orosco	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Aguilera, W 1-0	2	3	2	2	0	3

Stanley pitched to 1 batter in the 10th.

HBP—Buckner by Aguilera. WP—Stanley. Umpires—HP, Ford (AL); 1B, Kibler (NL); 2B, Evans (AL); 3B, Wendelstedt (NL); Left, Brinkman (AL); Right, Montague (NL). T—4:02. A—55,078.

METS 8, RED SOX 5

"I wanted to bat in a situation where I could be a major factor, to get a chance to be a game-breaker. As I rounded first, I felt like Edgar Allen Poe's 'The Telltale Heart'. My heart was pounding out of my body."—*Keith Hernandez*

Because rain put off Game Seven for a day, it gave everyone time to mull over one very important fact: That the miracle that was Game Six wouldn't matter a heckuva lot if the Mets failed to win Game Seven.

Monday brought the final act. Hurst, winner of two games already and the man who would have been named the Series MVP had the Red Sox only gotten that final out the other night, went for Boston. The Mets countered with Darling, who had been at the top of his game in his previous two Series starts.

But this time he wasn't.

Evans led off the second with a mountain of a home run that cleared the left field pavilion. Gedman followed with a drive the other way, to deepest right-center, that Strawberry went back on, leaped at the wall, had it, then lost it. It landed on the other side of the plywood fence, and it was 2-0. And before the inning was over, Boggs would come through with a clutch two-out RBI single to center for a 3-0 Boston edge.

Of course, no one doubted the bounceback abilities of the Mets, not after 39 come-from-behind wins in the regular season, and certainly not after what had happened two nights before. Still, that was Hurst out there, a man who had dominated the Mets in two straight games.

And maybe was on his way to doing it again. He allowed a harmless single by Knight in the second. Then he set down the next 10 in a row. After five, it was still 3-0 and time was running out.

Meanwhile, something very interesting was happening on the other side. Darling hit Henderson with a pitch to start the fourth, and a bunt moved the runner to second with two out. And right there, Darling, who'd post a tidy Series ERA of 1.53, was pulled in favor of Sid Fernandez, who was coming off a four-inning shutout relief stint in a lost cause in Game Five.

Sid walked Boggs, but then got out of the inning when Barrett flied out. Then he struck out two in the fifth, and two more in the sixth. Not only did he cool the Sox bats, but he got the crowd up and into it again. When he fanned Owen to end the sixth, the place exploded.

But there was still that 3-0 hole the Mets were in. In the sixth, Hurst set down Santana to start it off. Then Maz hit for Fernandez and grounded a single to right, only the second Met hit of the game. Mookie followed with a line shot that *just* got over the glove of a leaping Boggs. First and second. Suddenly Hurst couldn't find the plate, and Teufel walked to load the bases.

For Hernandez. Anyone with a good memory immediately flashed back to the seventh game of another World Series. This one was in 1982, the Cardinals and the Brewers. The Brewers lead, 3-1, but the Cards are putting together a one-out rally in the sixth. Bases loaded, and up steps Hernandez. . . and there goes a sin-

Sid turned the game around.

"I saw the guys coming and I went to the ground so they could hit their heads. They didn't get me, I got down quick."—*Jesse Orosco*

gle to right and a tie game, to start the Cards winging toward a 6-3 win.

How many times does a man find himself in virtually the exact situation, with a World Championship on the line, *twice* in his career? And how many times can he come through and deliver?

The answer came on the second pitch. A single to left-center and two runs. Then Carter's dunker to right was trapped by Evans...the Red Sox got the out at second, but the third run scored and the game was tied.

McDowell set Boston down in the seventh, and Knight led off the Mets' half against Schiraldi with a drive up the gap in left-center...that kept climbing and hit the blue tarp in front of the bleachers. 4-3 lead, and suddenly six outs away.

But the Mets weren't done. A single, wild pitch, and then Santana's hit up the first base line made it 5-3...and a few minutes later, Hernandez drove in another with a sacrifice fly.

Then came the final, king-sized scare. Buckner and Rice led off the eighth with singles, and Evans' gapper to right-center scored two runs and put the tying run at second with none out. Orosco relieved McDowell. Gedman hit one right on the button—but right to Backman. Henderson fanned, and Baylor grounded out. Still ahead, but just by one.

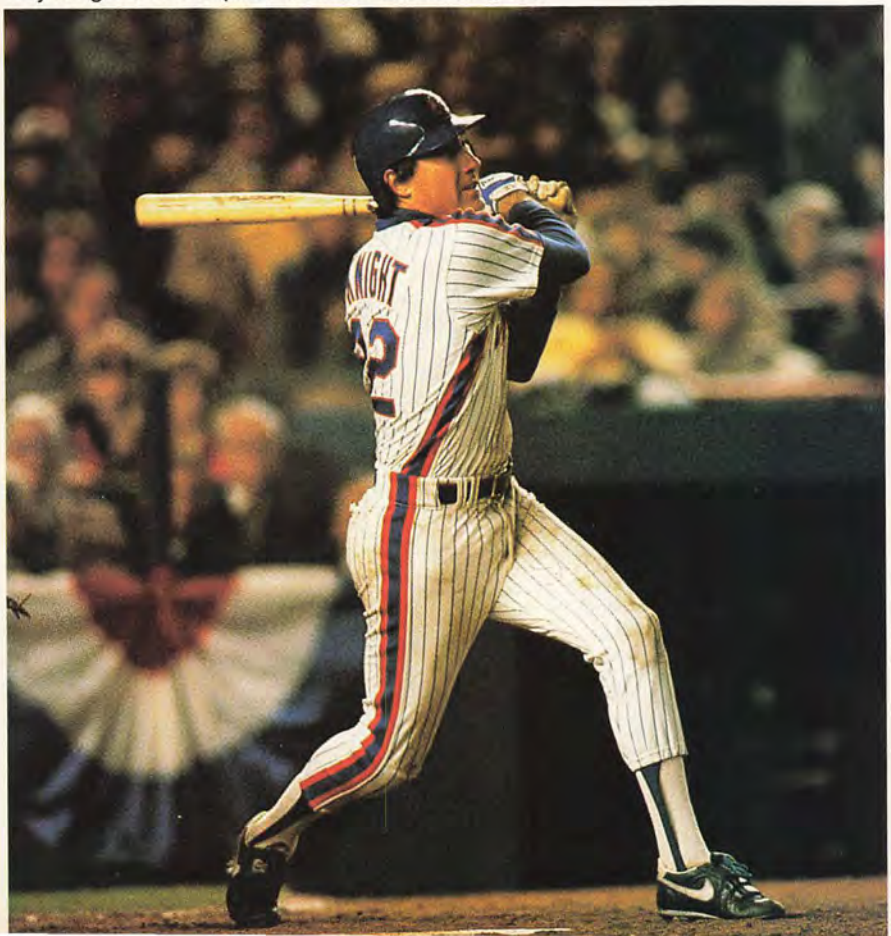
Soon there'd be no doubt. Straw led off the eighth against Nipper with a majestic drive to right-center, the ball seeming to hang in the air forever, before it landed just below the scoreboard. Then Knight and Santana reached base, and with the infield pulled up looking for the bunt, Jesse butcher-boyed one through the middle to score Knight with the final run of the 1986 baseball season.

A few minutes later, Orosco got Barrett swinging and it was done. And the Mets were about to learn what every World Champion before them had known all too well: That all you had to do to have the shortest offseason of your life was to get the last out in the last inning of the last game of the season.

"This was every bit as sweet as I thought it would be. Even sweeter, in fact."

—Davey Johnson

Ray Knight's homer puts the Mets ahead for good.



Boston	ab	r	h	bi	New York	ab	r	h	bi
Boggs, 3b	4	0	1	1	M. Wlsn, cf	3	1	1	0
Barrett, 2b	5	0	1	0	Teufel, 2b	2	0	0	0
Bucknr, 1b	4	1	2	0	Bckmn, 2b	1	1	0	0
Rice, lf	4	1	2	0	Hrndz, 1b	4	0	1	3
Evans, rf	4	1	2	3	Carter, c	4	0	0	1
Gedman, c	4	1	1	1	Strwbry, rf	4	1	1	1
Hndrsn, cf	2	1	0	0	Knight, 3b	4	2	3	1
Owen, ss	3	0	0	0	Mitchell, lf	2	0	0	0
Baylor, ph	1	0	0	0	Dykstra, cf	2	1	1	0
Nipper, p	0	0	0	0	Santana, ss	3	1	1	1
Crawfrd, p	0	0	0	0	Darling, p	1	0	0	0
Hurst, p	3	0	0	0	Frndz, p	0	0	0	0
Armas, ph	1	0	0	0	Mazzilli, ph	1	1	1	0
Schiraldi, p	0	0	0	0	McDwll, p	0	0	0	0
Sambito, p	0	0	0	0	Orosco, p	1	0	1	1
Stanley, p.	0	0	0	0					
Romero, ss	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**33**	**5**	**9**	**5**	**Totals**	**32**	**8**	**10**	**8**

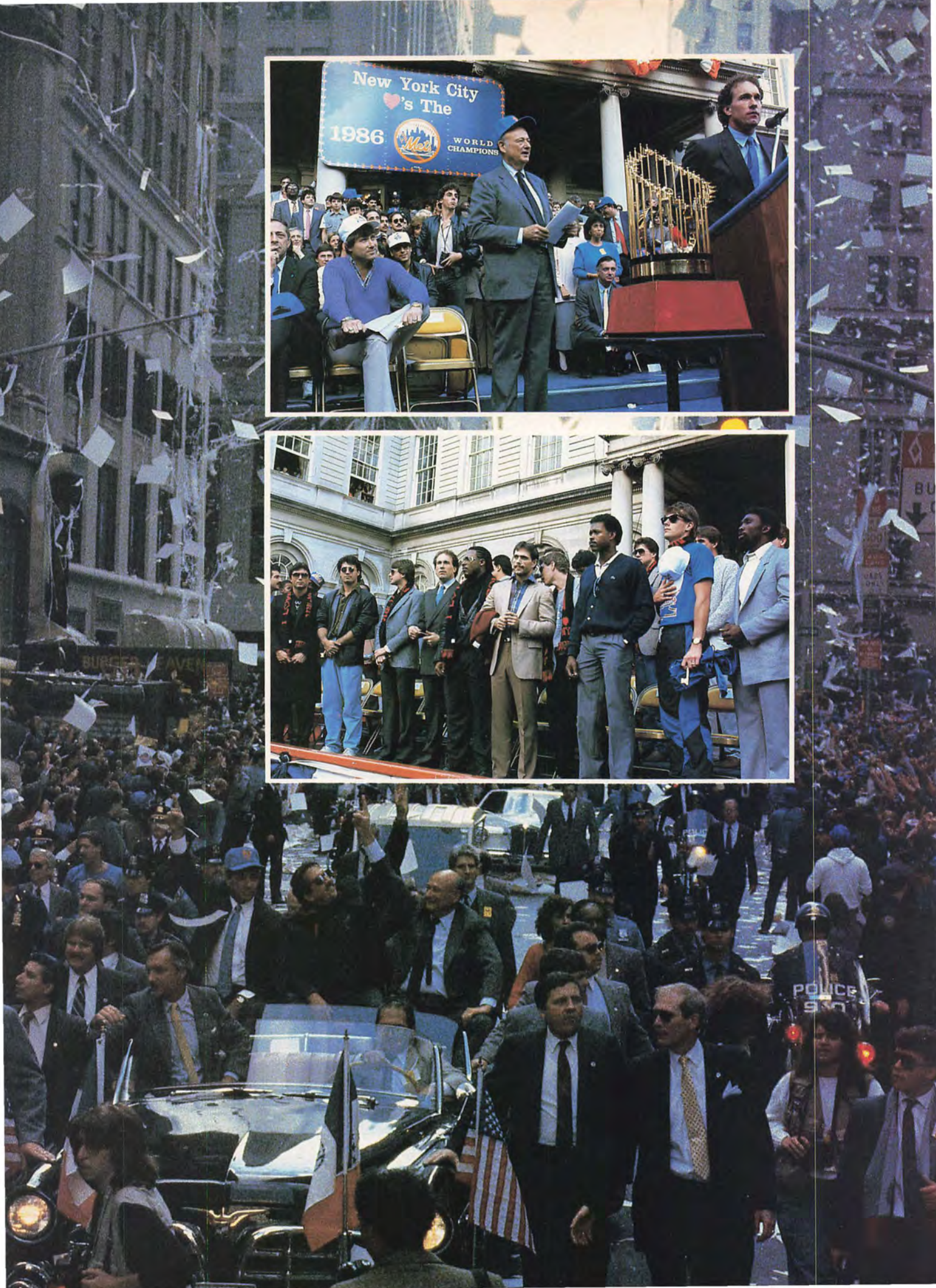
Boston							**030**	**000**	**020**	**— 5**
New York							**000**	**003**	**32x**	**— 8**

GWRBI—Knight (1). LOB—Boston 6, New York 7. 2B—Evans. HR—Evans (2), Gedman (1), Knight (1), Strawberry (1). S—Hurst 2, McDowell. SF—Hernandez.

Boston	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hurst	6	4	3	3	1	3
Schiraldi, L 0-2	⅓	3	3	3	0	0
Sambito	⅓	0	0	0	2	0
Stanley	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Nipper	⅓	3	2	2	1	0
Crawford	⅔	0	0	0	0	0
New York						
Darling	3⅔	6	3	3	1	0
Fernandez	2⅓	0	0	0	1	4
McDowell, W 1-0	1	3	2	2	0	1
Orosco, S 2	2	0	0	0	0	2

McDowell pitched to 3 batters in the 8th.

HBP—Henderson by Darling, Wilson by Crawford. WP—Schiraldi. Umpires—HP, Kibler (NL); 1B, Evans (AL); 2B, Wendelstedt (NL); 3B, Brinkman (AL); Left, Montague (NL); Right, Ford (AL). T—3:11. A—55,032.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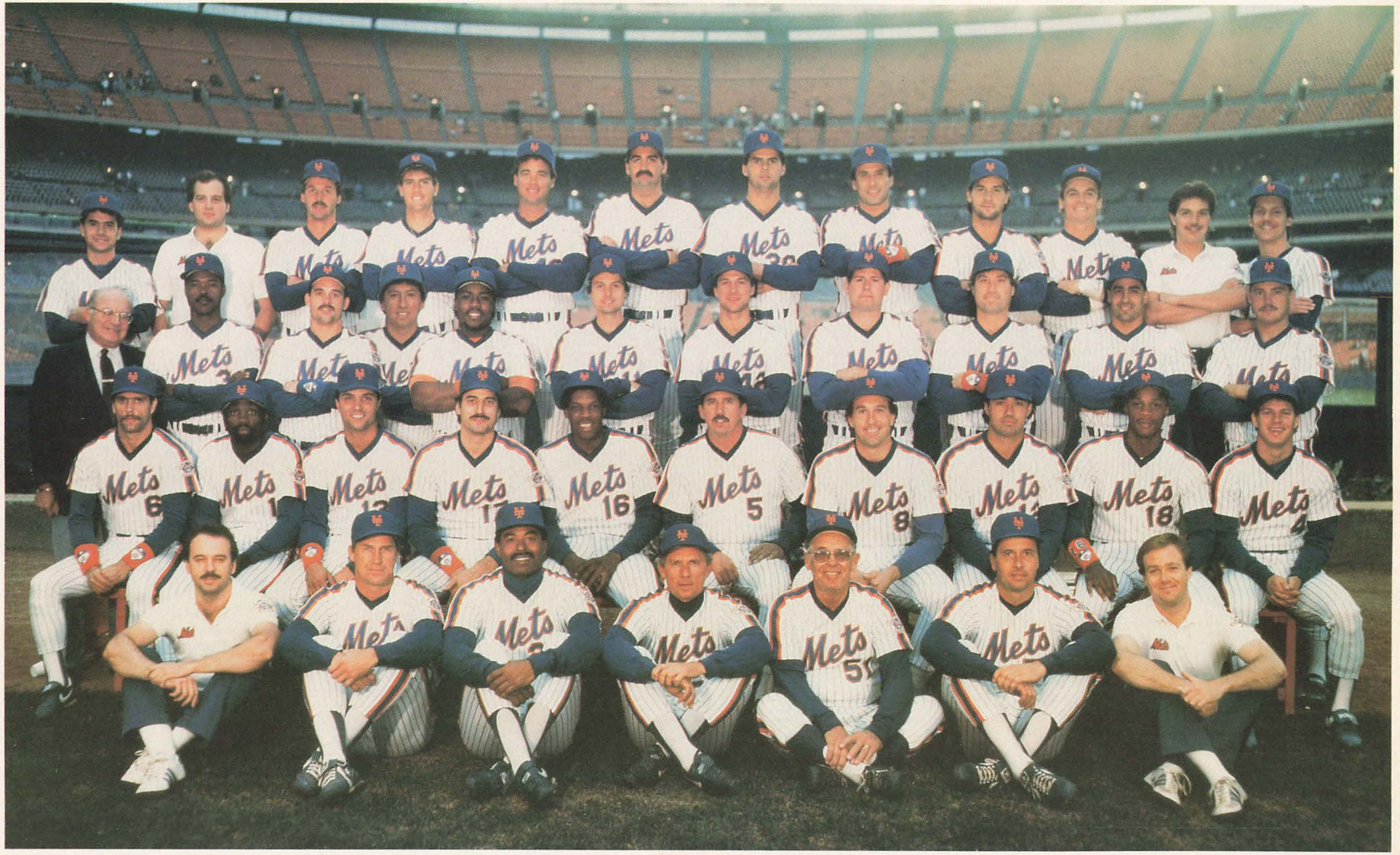
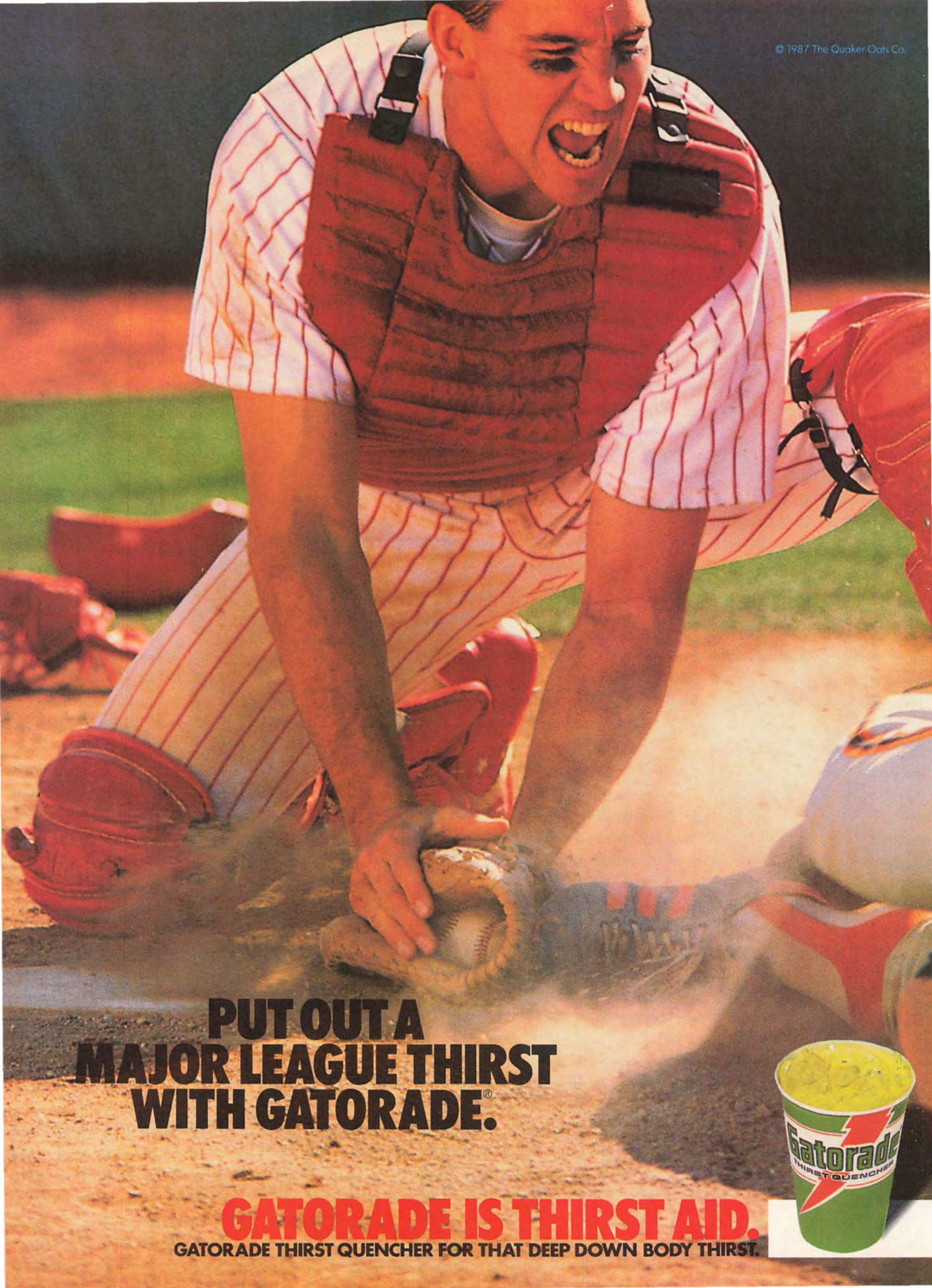


FRONT ROW (*L to R*): Trainer Steve Garland, coaches Mel Stottlemyre, Bill Robinson, Bud Harrelson, Vern Hoscheit and Greg Pavlick, assistant trainer Bob Sikes. **SECOND ROW:** Wally Backman, Mookie Wilson, Lee Mazzilli, Keith Hernandez, Dwight Gooden, Manager Davey Johnson, Gary Carter, Ron Darling, Darryl Strawberry, Lenny Dykstra. **THIRD ROW:** Assistant to the General Manager and Travel Director Arthur Richman, Rafael Santana, Howard Johnson, Jesse Orosco, Kevin Mitchell, Tim Teufel, Roger McDowell, Doug Sisk, Ray Knight, Sid Fernandez, Randy Myers. **BACK ROW:** Batboy Paul Greco, Equipment Manager Charlie Samuels, Rick Anderson, Kevin Elster, Ed Hearn, Randy Niemann, Rick Aguilera, Bob Ojeda, Danny Heep, John Gibbons, Assistant Equipment Manager John Rufino, Batboy Mike Rufino.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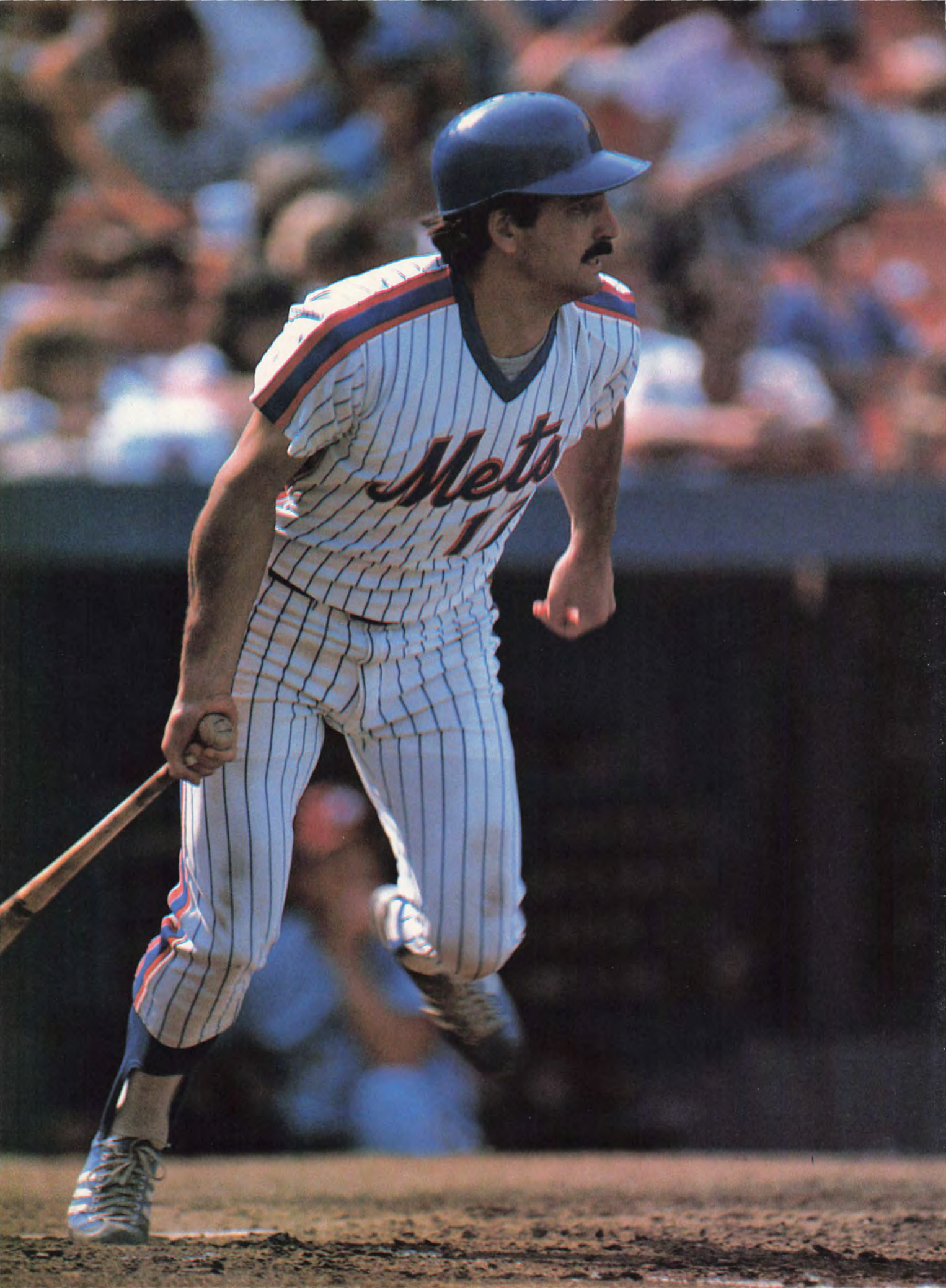
33 BARRY LYONS

"I just gotta keep myself ready, just prepare myself the best way I can for that time, whenever it may be. The sooner the better for me."

25 KEITH MILLER

"If you take away my aggressiveness, you take away my game."

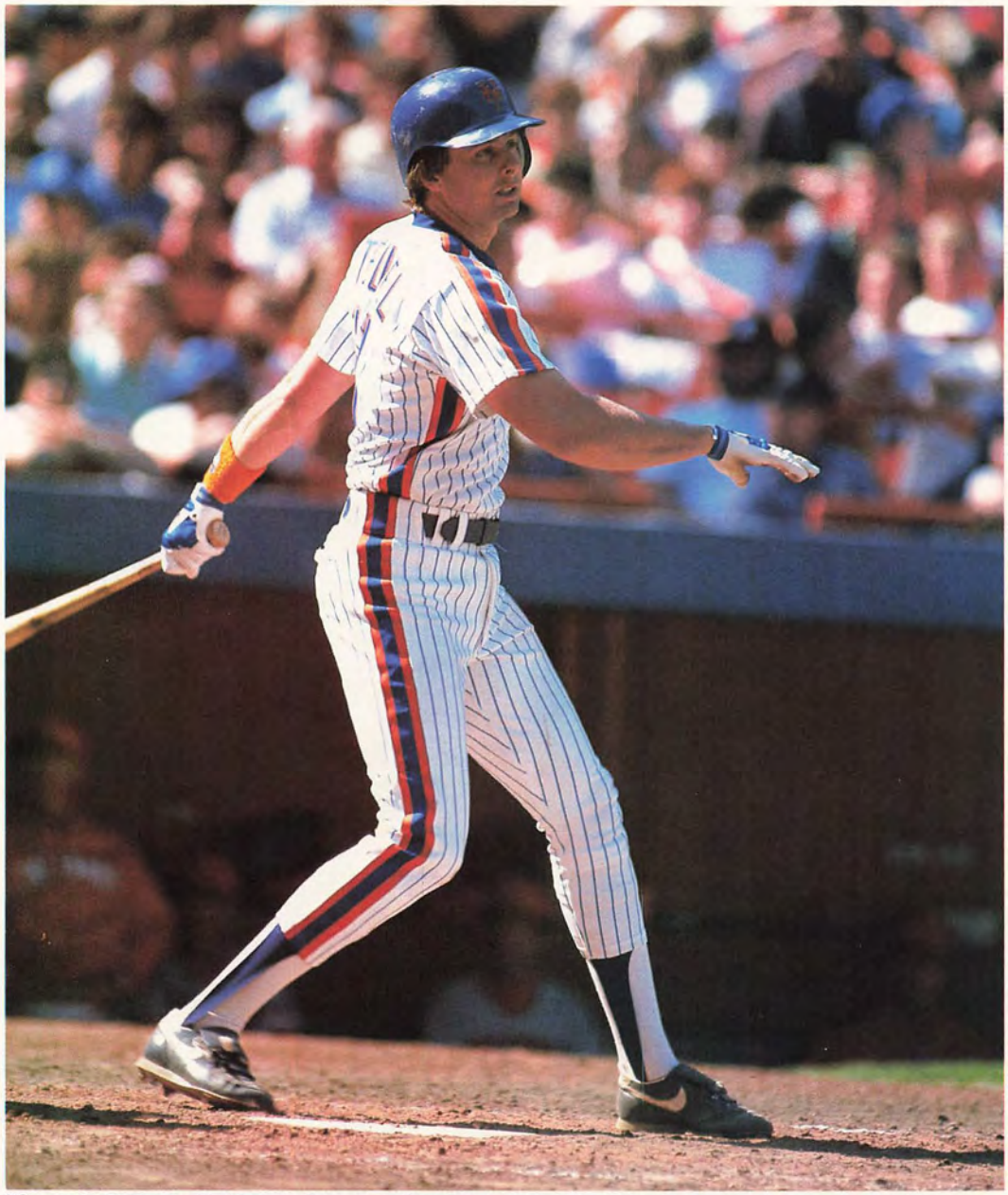

Mets

17
KEITH HERNANDEZ

"We started to throw our caps and about five of us realized all at once that we were throwing them to the first base fans. So five of us ran to the third base side. The fans were so great the last few years, but this was the best. I haven't cried in baseball since my rookie year, when Tom Seaver struck me out four times in a game, twice with the bases loaded. But I almost clouded over today."—October 5, 1986.

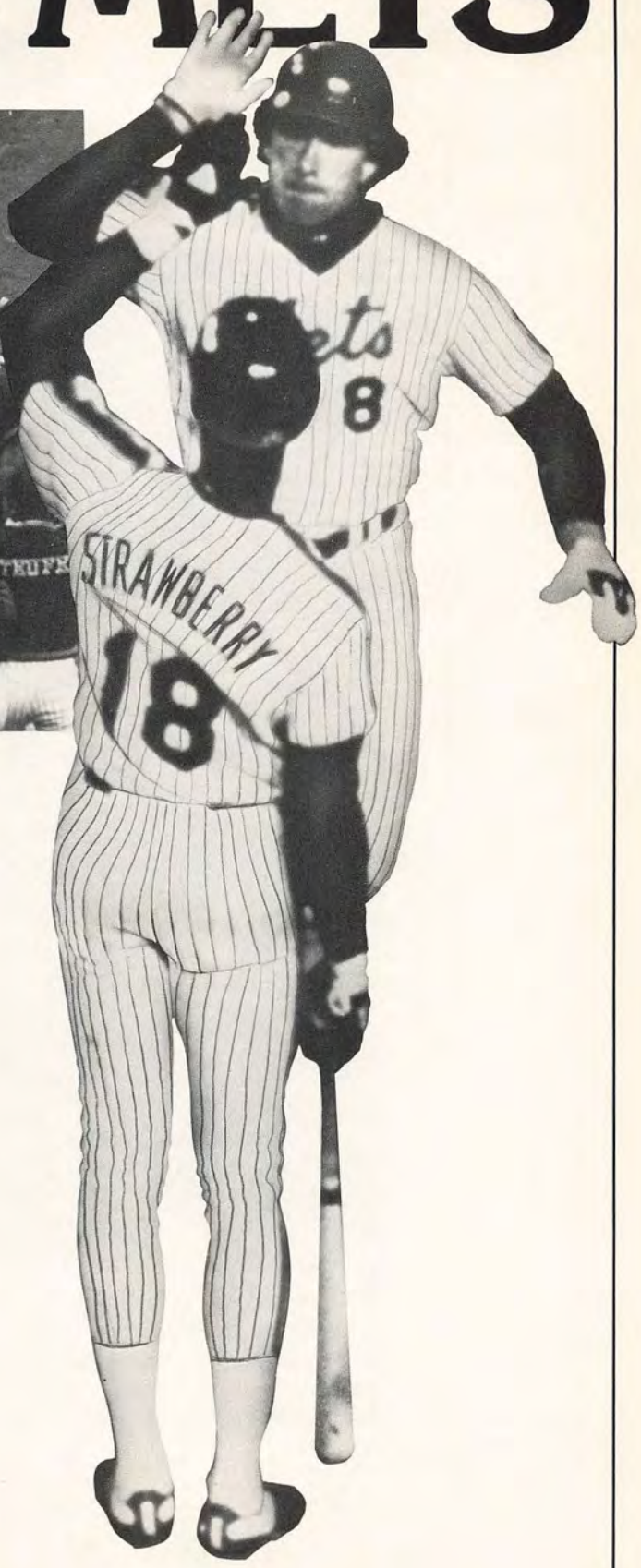
11

TIM TEUFEL



"Once I hit the ball, I knew it was going far enough to drive in the game-winner. Watching it go into the stands and taking that trot around the bases were my biggest thrills in baseball." — after his grand slam to beat the Phillies, June 10, 1986

MORE METS



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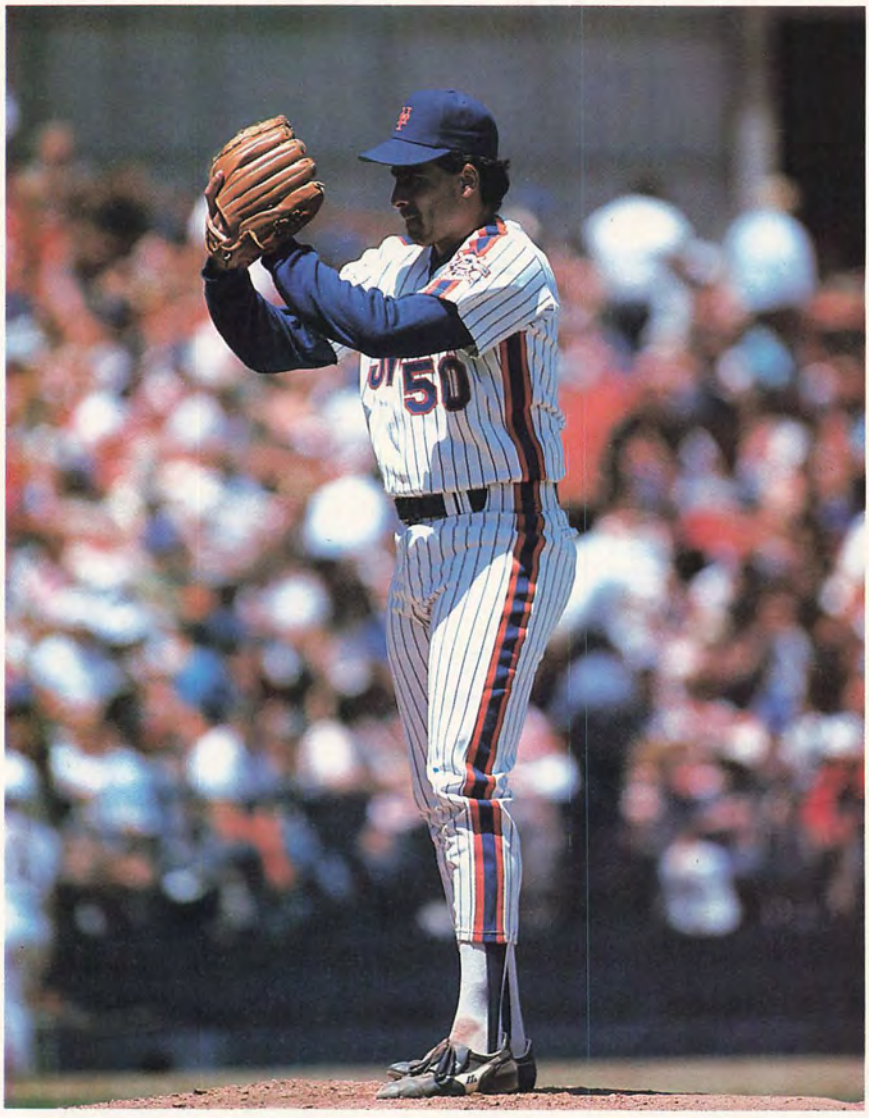
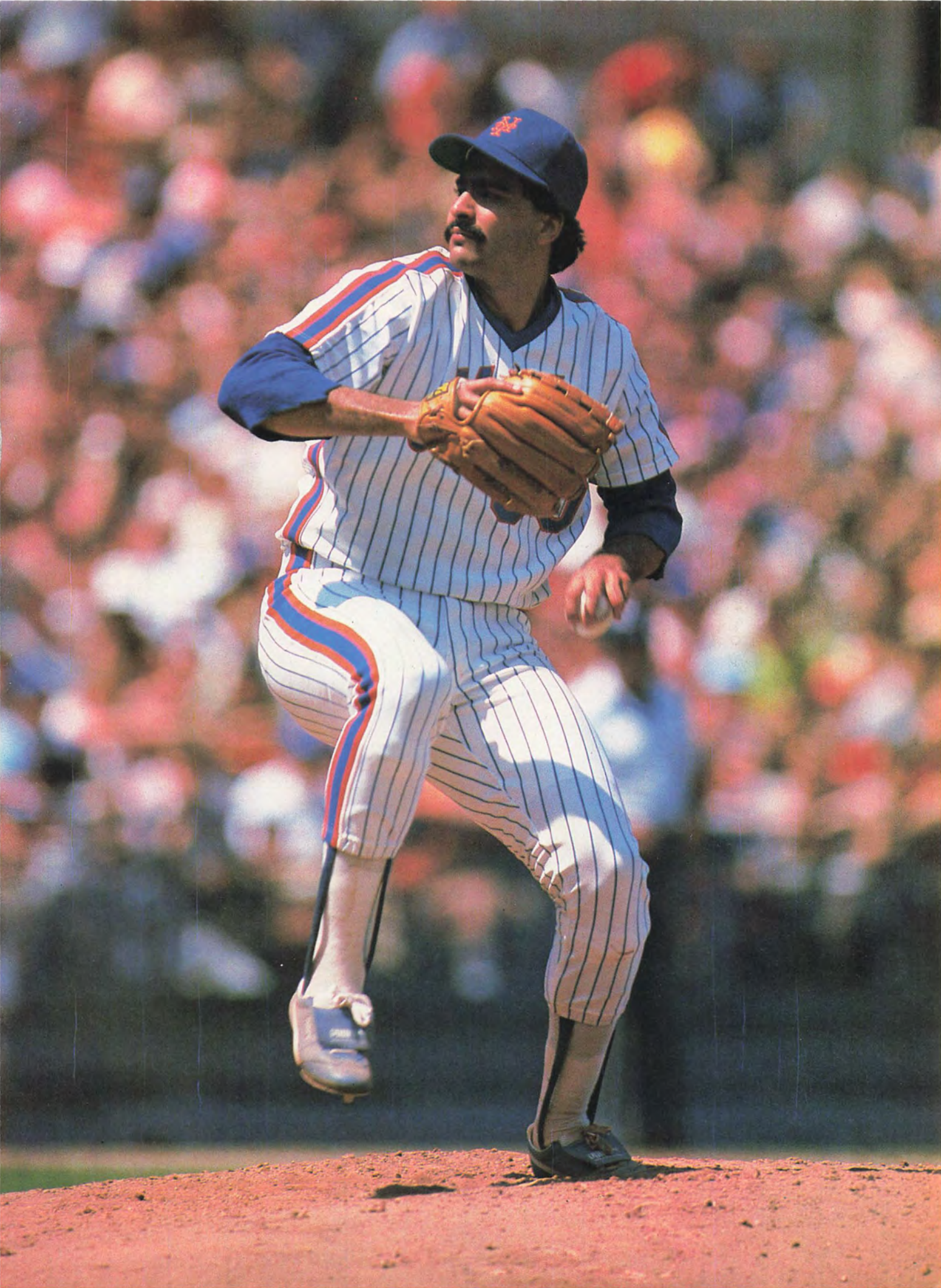
SID FERNANDEZ

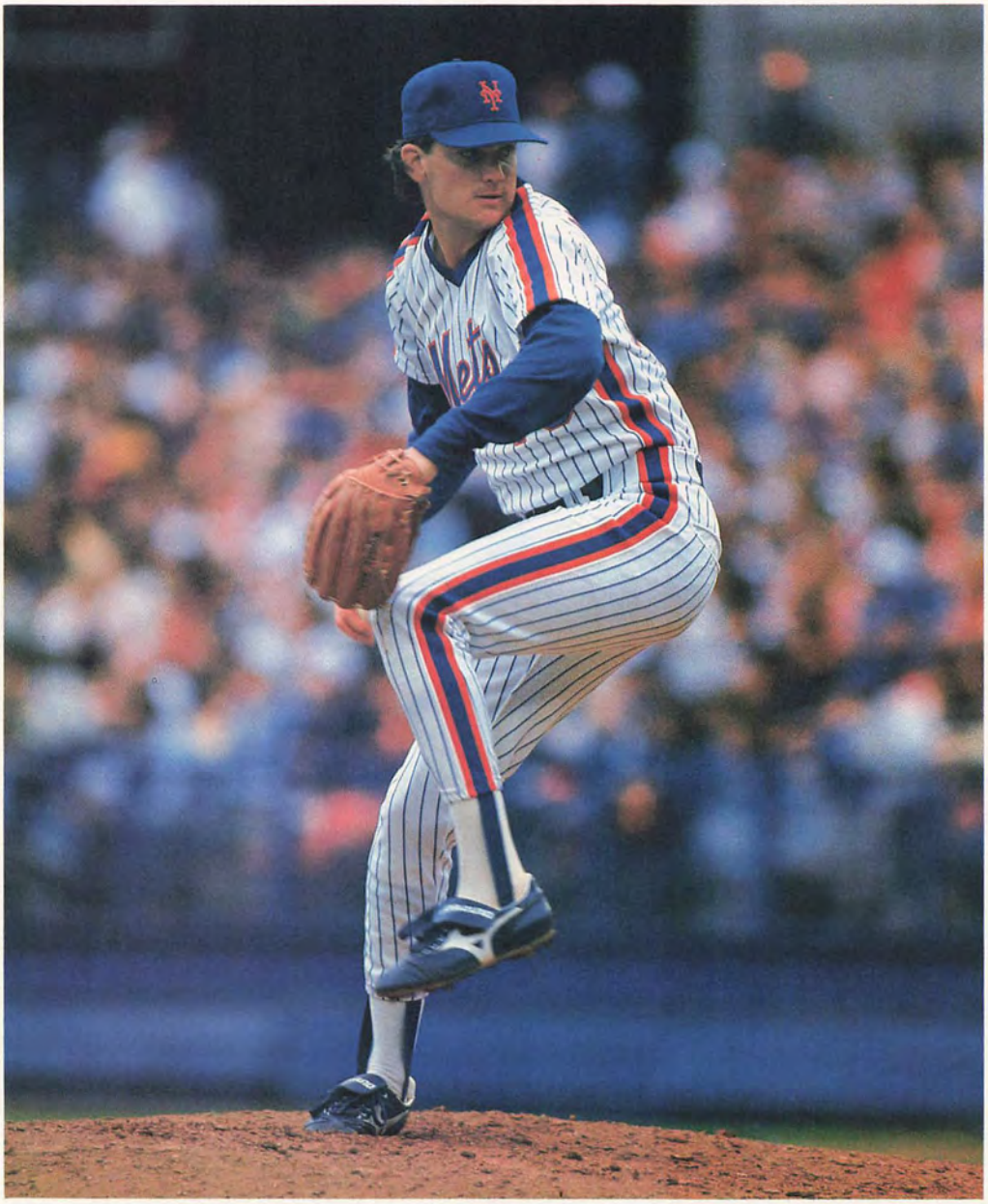


"I'm a firm believer in taking things day by day, game by game. I'm still working on it. Sometimes you get that doubt, that fear in your mind. Like, this guy has hit me hard a couple of times. But, see, that was last game. This is this game. You have to blow out the negative things. Not just in baseball, but in real life, too."



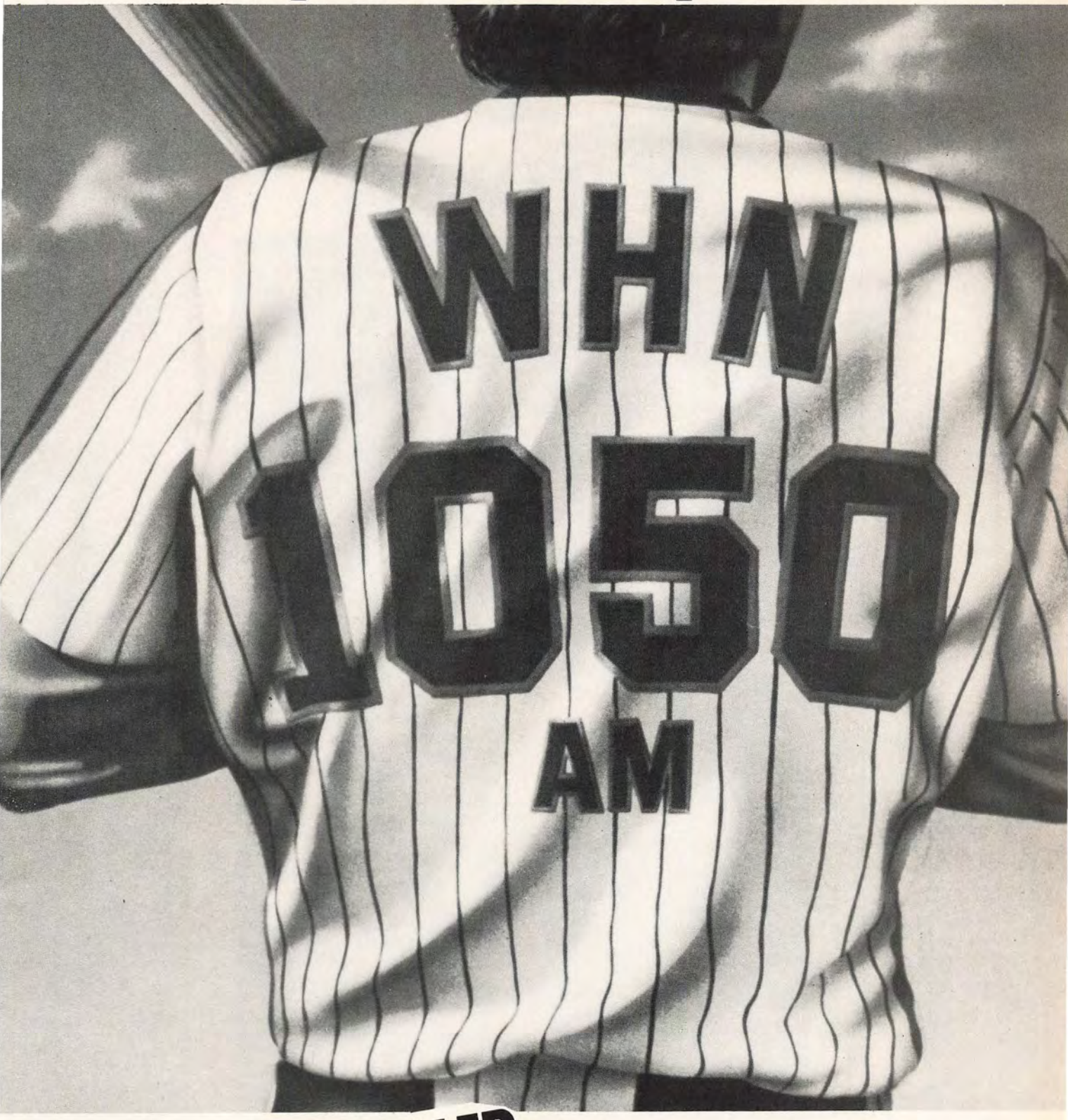
43

JOHN MITCHELL



"I knew that if I came up here and threw good, I'd stay. I was concerned early, when things didn't go right. But I knew I'd have a couple more chances to stick."

Every Pitch, Every Game



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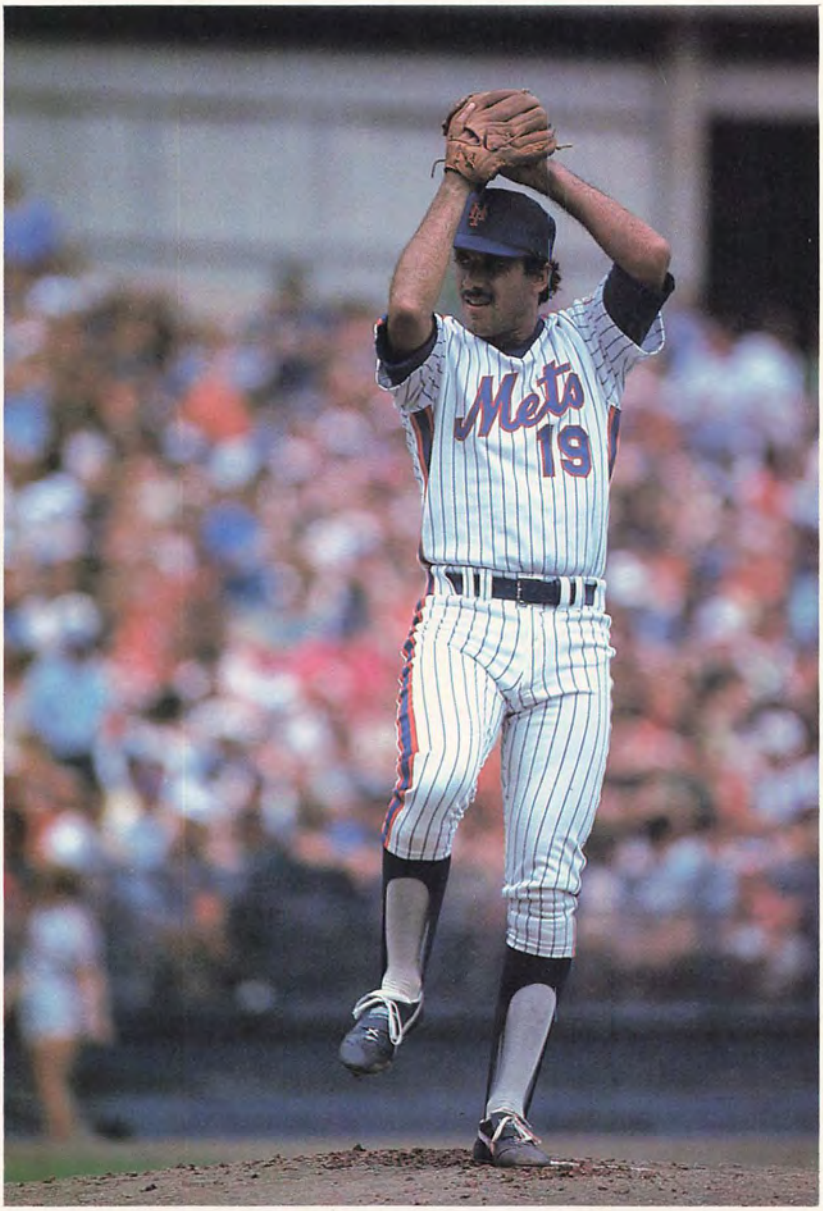
19

BOB OJEDA

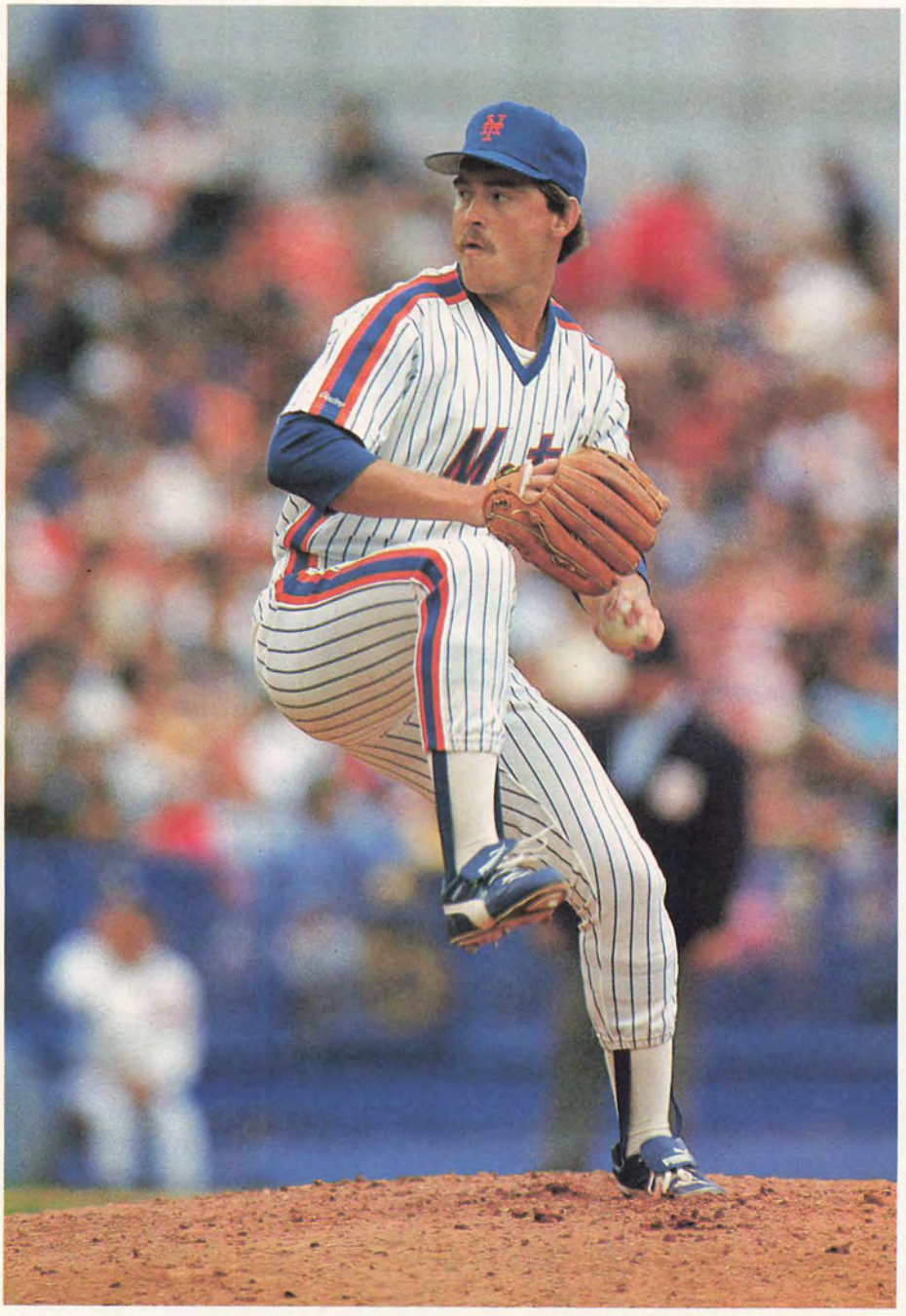


"If you could write a script on how you'd want a year in your life to go, this would be it. The collection of people we have here, the attitude this team has, all the winning we've been doing—everything. To have the kind of success that I've had personally, you need to be on a team that's doing well."

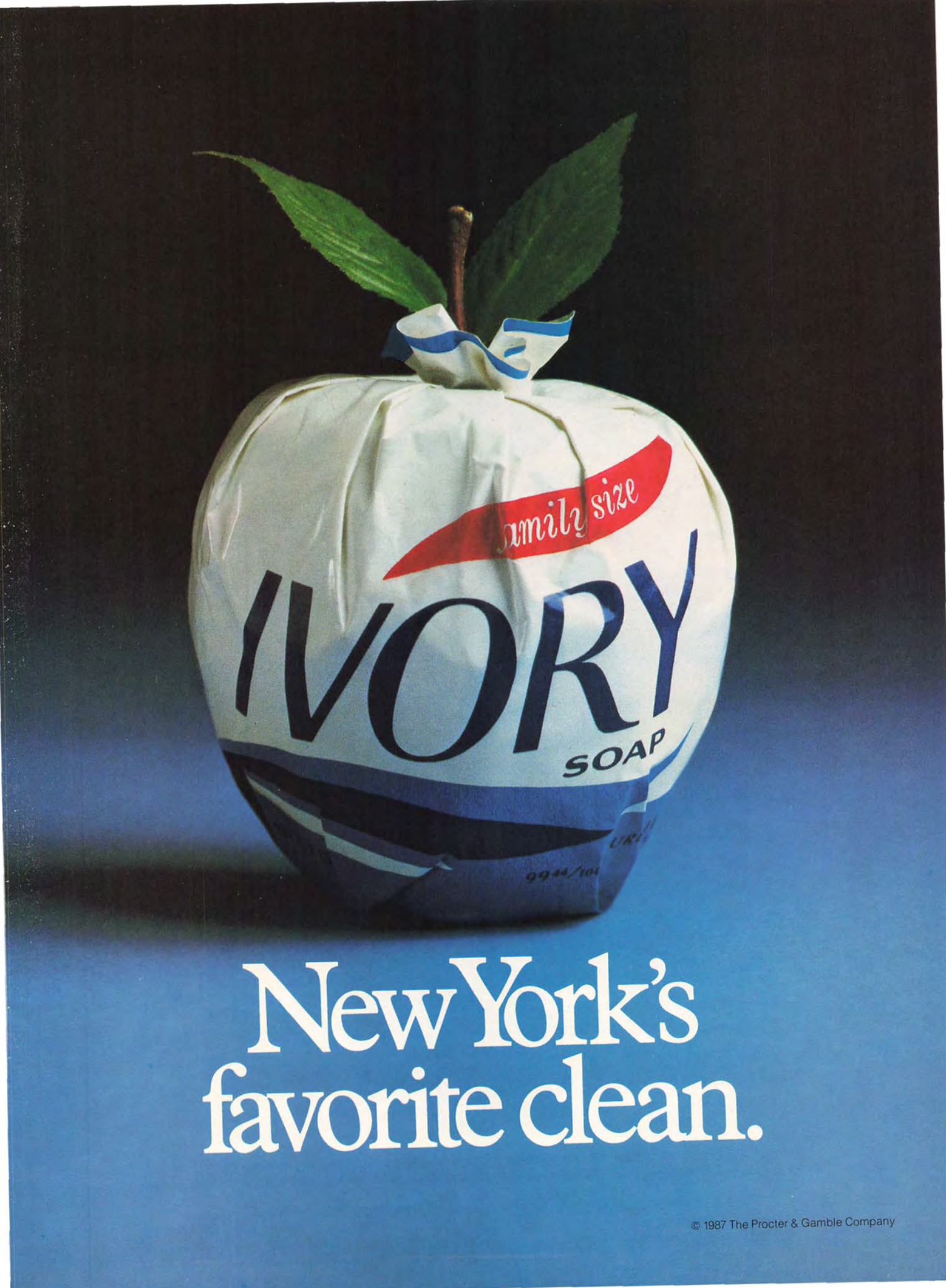
Mets
19

48

RANDY MYERS



"I think everybody starts to get the itch after the bowl games on New Year's Day. I hit January and the world changes."



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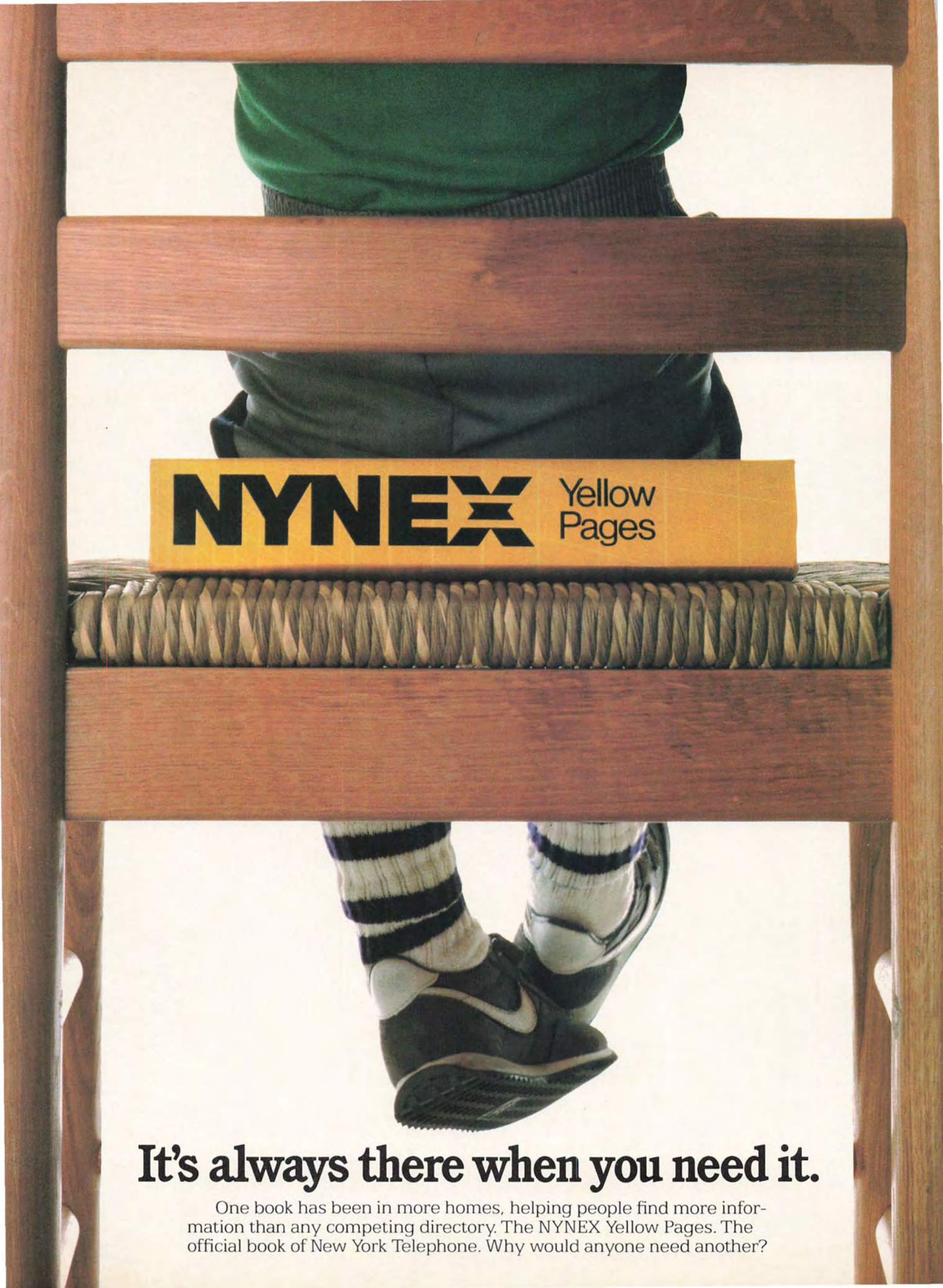

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OFF THE FIELD

Right before the start of spring training, a number of Mets travelled to the JDM Country Club in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. to play in the first annual Gary Carter Sweet 'N Low Golf Classic for the benefit of the Leukemia Society of America. Joining Gary (center) at the event were (l-r) Roger McDowell, Tim Teufel, Ed Hearn, Jesse Orosco, Bob Ojeda and Rick Aguilera. The inaugural event raised $25,000.

Co-Chairmen Hicks B. Waldron, Chairman and C.E.O of Avon products, and actress Dina Merrill, Vice President of the New York City Mission Society, stand with Howard Johnson and First Person Award Honoree J. Richard Munro, Chairman and C.E.O. of Time Inc., at the sixth annual First Person Award banquet, November 17, 1986 in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria hotel.

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1983	Little Falls (A)	5-6	3.72	16	15	4	2	0	104.	109	55	43	26	84
1984	Lynchburg (A)	8-3	2.34	13	13	6	3	0	88.1	72	29	23	28	101
1984	Jackson (AA)	4-4	4.57	11	11	2	1	0	67.	68	37	34	19	71
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	6-4	2.51	11	11	2	1	0	79.	64	24	22	17	55
1985	Mets (NL)	10-7	3.24	21	19	2	0	0	122.1	118	49	44	37	74
1986	Mets (NL)	10-7	3.88	28	20	2	0	0	141.2	145	70	61	36	104
Major League Totals		20-14	3.58	49	39	4	0	0	264.	263	119	105	73	178

GWRBI: 1985—0; 1986—1. Total—1.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	2	0	0	0	0	5.	2	1	0	2	2

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	1-0	12.00	2	0	0	0	0	3.	8	4	4	1	4

BILL ALMON 2

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1974	Hawaii (AAA)	.222	14	36	6	8	0	0	0	3	3	9	0
1974	Alexandria (AA)	.186	25	97	9	18	2	2	0	5	2	21	1
1974	San Diego (NL)	.316	16	38	4	12	1	0	0	3	2	9	1
1975	Hawaii (AAA)	.228	144	496	76	113	22	0	1	47	56	106	33
1975	San Diego (NL)	.400	6	10	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1976	Hawaii (AAA)	.291	129	454	67	132	16	2	3	44	35	67	21
1976	San Diego (NL)	.246	14	57	6	14	3	0	1	6	2	9	3
1977	San Diego (NL)	.261	155	613	75	160	18	11	2	43	37	114	20
1978	San Diego (NL)	.252	138	405	39	102	19	2	0	21	33	74	17
1979	San Diego (NL)	.227	100	198	20	45	3	0	1	8	21	48	6
1980	Mtl.-N.Y. (NL)	.193	66	150	15	29	4	3	0	7	9	32	2
1981	Chicago (AL)	.301	103	349	46	105	10	2	4	41	21	60	16
1982	Chicago (AL)	.256	111	308	40	79	10	4	4	26	25	49	10
1983	Oakland (AL)	.266	143	451	45	120	29	1	4	63	26	67	26
1984	Oakland (AL)	.223	106	211	24	47	11	0	7	16	10	42	5
1985	Pittsburgh (NL)	.270	88	244	33	66	17	0	6	29	22	61	10
1986	Pittsburgh (NL)	.219	102	196	29	43	7	2	7	27	30	38	11
Major League Totals		.256	1148	3230	376	826	132	25	36	290	238	604	127

GWRBI: 1980—1; 1981—2; 1982—4; 1983—5; 1984—3; 1985—1; 1986—3. Total—19.

WALLY BACKMAN 6

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1977	Little Falls (Rookie)	.325	69	255	44	83	10	2	6	30	28	53	20
1978	Lynchburg (A)	.302	132	494	86	149	19	9	3	38	74	99	42
1979	Jackson (AA)	.282	110	404	63	114	11	5	2	19	35	50	23
1980	Tidewater (AAA)	.293	125	400	53	117	15	5	1	51	87	67	11
1980	Mets (NL)	.323	27	93	12	30	1	1	0	9	11	14	2
1981	Mets (NL)	.278	26	36	5	10	2	0	0	0	4	7	1
1981	Tidewater (AAA)	.153	21	59	6	9	3	1	0	6	10	8	2
1982	Mets (NL)	.272	96	261	37	71	13	2	3	22	49	47	8
1983	Tidewater (AAA)	.316	101	361	69	114	11	3	1	28	68	46	36
1983	Mets (NL)	.167	26	42	6	7	0	1	0	3	2	8	0
1984	Mets (NL)	.280	128	436	68	122	19	2	1	26	56	63	32
1985	Mets (NL)	.273	145	520	77	142	24	5	1	38	36	72	30
1986	Mets (NL)	.320	124	387	67	124	18	2	1	27	36	32	13
Major League Totals		.285	572	1775	272	506	77	13	6	125	194	243	86

GWRBI: 1980—0; 1981—0; 1982—4; 1983—0; 1984—7; 1985—3; 1986—5. Total—19.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.238	6	21	5	5	0	0	0	2	2	4	1

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.333	6	18	4	6	0	0	0	1	3	2	1

GARY CARTER 8

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1972	Cocoa (Rk.)	.239	18	71	6	17	3	0	2	9	8	11	1
1972	West Palm Beach (A)	.320	20	50	9	16	2	2	0	5	13	9	0
1973	Quebec (AA)	.253	130	439	65	111	16	1	15	68	63	92	5
1973	Peninsula (AAA)	.280	8	25	2	7	2	0	0	1	1	5	0
1974	Memphis (AAA)	.268	135	441	62	118	14	7	23	83	59	75	6
1974	Montreal (NL)	.407	9	27	5	11	0	1	1	6	1	2	2
1975	Montreal (NL)	.270	144	503	58	136	20	1	17	68	72	83	5
1976	Montreal (NL)	.219	91	311	31	68	8	1	6	38	30	43	0
1977	Montreal (NL)	.284	154	522	86	148	29	2	31	84	58	103	5
1978	Montreal (NL)	.255	157	533	76	136	27	1	20	72	62	70	10
1979	Montreal (NL)	.283	141	505	74	143	26	5	22	75	40	62	3
1980	Montreal (NL)	.264	154	549	76	145	25	5	29	101	58	78	3
1981	Montreal (NL)	.251	100	374	48	94	20	2	16	68	35	35	1
1982	Montreal (NL)	.293	154	557	91	163	32	1	29	97	78	66	2
1983	Montreal (NL)	.270	145	541	63	146	37	3	17	79	51	57	1
1984	Montreal (NL)	.294	159	596	75	175	32	1	27	106	64	57	2
1985	Mets (NL)	.281	149	555	83	156	17	1	32	100	69	46	1
1986	Mets (NL)	.255	132	490	81	125	14	2	24	105	62	63	1
Major League Totals		.271	1689	6063	847	1646	287	26	271	999	680	765	36

GWRBI: 1980—13; 1981—7; 1982—10; 1983—5; 1984—16; 1985—18; 1986—16. Total—85.

DIVISION SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1981	Montreal (NL)	.421	5	19	3	8	3	0	2	6	1	1	0

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1981	Montreal (NL)	.438	5	16	3	7	1	0	0	0	4	2	0
1986	Mets (NL)	.148	6	27	1	4	1	0	0	2	2	5	0
LCS Totals		.256	11	43	4	11	2	0	0	2	6	7	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.276	7	29	4	8	2	0	2	9	0	4	0

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	LEAGUE, SITE	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1975	National, Milwaukee	.000	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1979	National, Seattle	.500	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1980	National, L.A.	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1981	National, Cleveland	.667	1	3	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
1982	National, Montreal	.333	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1983	National, Chicago (A)	.000	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1984	National, S.F.	.500	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
1985	National, Minnesota	(Selected, did not play due to injury)											
1986	National, Houston	.000	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All-Star Game Totals		.313	8	16	3	5	0	0	3	5	1	0	0

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DAVID CONE 44

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1981	Sarasota (Rookie)	6-4	2.55	14	12	0	0	0	67.	52	24	19	33	45
1982	Charleston (A)	9-2	2.06	16	16	1	1	0	105.	84	38	24	47	87
1982	Ft. Myers (A)	7-1	2.12	10	9	6	1	0	72.	56	21	17	25	57
1983						(Did not play—injured)								
1984	Memphis (AA)	8-12	4.27	29	29	9	1	0	179.	162	103	85	111	114
1985	Omaha (AAA)	9-15	4.65	28	27	5	1	0	158.2	157	90	82	93	115
1986	Omaha (AAA)	8-4	2.79	39	2	2	0	14	71.	60	23	22	25	63
1986	Kansas City (AL)	0-0	5.56	11	0	0	0	0	22.	29	14	14	13	21
Major League Totals		0-0	5.56	11	0	0	0	0	22.	29	14	14	13	21

RON DARLING 12

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1981	Tulsa (AA)	4-2	4.44	13	13	2	2	0	71.	72	43	35	33	53
1982	Tidewater (AAA)	7-9	3.73	26	26	6	2	0	152.	143	76	63	95	114
1983	Tidewater (AAA)	10-9	4.02	27	27	5	1	0	159.	137	83	71	102	107
1983	Mets (NL)	1-3	2.80	5	5	1	0	0	35.1	31	11	11	17	23
1984	Mets (NL)	12-9	3.81	33	33	2	2	0	205.2	179	97	87	104	136
1985	Mets (NL)	16-6	2.90	36	35	4	2	0	248.	214	93	80	114	167
1986	Mets (NL)	15-6	2.81	34	34	4	2	0	237.	203	84	74	81	184
Major League Totals		44-24	3.12	108	107	11	6	0	726.	627	285	252	316	510

GWRBI: 1983—0; 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—0; Total—0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	7.20	1	1	0	0	0	5.	6	4	4	2	5

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	1-1	1.53	3	3	0	0	0	17.2	13	4	3	10	12

LENNY DYKSTRA 4

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1981	Shelby (A)	.261	48	157	34	41	7	2	0	18	37	31	15
1982	Shelby (A)	.291	120	413	95	120	13	7	3	38	95	40	77
1983	Lynchburg (A)	.358	136	525	132	188	24	14	8	81	107	35	105
1984	Jackson (AA)	.275	131	501	100	138	25	7	6	52	73	45	53
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	.310	58	229	44	71	8	6	1	25	31	20	26
1985	Mets (NL)	.254	83	236	40	60	9	3	1	19	30	24	15
1986	Mets (NL)	.295	147	431	77	127	27	7	8	45	58	55	31
Major League Totals		.280	230	667	117	187	36	10	9	64	88	79	46

GWRBI: 1985—3; 1986—7. Total—10.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.304	6	23	3	7	1	1	1	3	2	4	1

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.296	7	27	4	8	0	0	2	3	2	7	0

SID FERNANDEZ 50

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1981	Lethbridge (A)	5-1	1.54	11	11	2	1	0	76.	43	21	13	31	128
1982	Vero Beach (A)	8-1	1.91	12	12	5	4	0	84.2	38	19	18	38	137
1982	Albuquerque (AAA)	6-5	5.42	13	13	5	0	0	88.	76	54	53	52	86
1983	San Antonio (AA)	13-4	2.82	24	24	4	1	0	153.	111	61	48	96	209
1983	Los Angeles (NL)	0-1	6.00	2	1	0	0	0	6.	7	4	4	7	9
1984	Tidewater (AAA)	6-5	2.56	17	17	3	0	0	105.2	69	39	30	63	123
1984	Mets (NL)	6-6	3.50	15	15	0	0	0	90.	74	40	35	34	62
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	4-1	2.04	5	5	1	0	0	35.1	17	8	8	21	42
1985	Mets (NL)	9-9	2.80	26	26	3	0	0	170.1	108	56	53	80	180
1986	Mets (NL)	16-6	3.52	32	31	2	1	1	204.1	161	82	80	91	200
Major League Totals		31-22	3.29	75	73	5	1	1	470.2	350	182	172	212	451

GWRBI: 1983—0; 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—2. Total—2.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-1	4.50	1	1	0	0	0	6.	3	3	3	1	5

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	1.35	3	0	0	0	0	6.2	6	1	1	1	10

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	National, Houston	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	1.	0	0	0	2	3
All-Star Game Totals		0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	1.	0	0	0	2	3

DWIGHT GOODEN 16

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1982	Kingsport (A)	5-4	2.47	9	9	4	2	0	66.	53	34	18	25	66
1982	Little Falls (A)	0-1	4.15	2	2	0	0	0	13.	11	6	6	3	18
1983	Lynchburg (A)	19-4	2.50	27	27	10	6	0	191.	121	58	53	112	300
1984	Mets (NL)	17-9	2.60	31	31	7	3	0	218.	161	72	63	73	276
1985	Mets (NL)	24-4	1.53	35	35	16	8	0	276.2	198	51	47	69	268
1986	Mets (NL)	17-6	2.84	33	33	12	2	0	250.	197	92	79	80	200
Major League Totals		58-19	2.28	99	99	35	13	0	744.2	556	215	189	222	744

GWRBI: 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—0. Total-0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-1	1.06	2	2	0	0	0	17.	16	2	2	5	9

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-2	8.00	2	2	0	0	0	9.	17	10	8	4	9

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	LEAGUE, SITE	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1984	Natl., San Francisco	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	2.	1	0	0	0	3
1985	Natl., Minnesota					(Selected, did not pitch)								
1986	Natl., Houston	0-1	6.00	1	1	0	0	0	3.	3	2	2	0	2
All-Star Game Totals		0-1	3.60	2	1	0	0	0	5.	4	2	2	0	5

KEITH HERNANDEZ 17

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1972	St. Petersburg (A)	.256	84	309	38	79	16	5	5	41	42	39	6
1972	Tulsa (AAA)	.241	11	29	5	7	1	0	0	1	0	6	0
1973	Arkansas (AA)	.260	105	388	62	101	20	2	3	52	49	53	8
1973	Tulsa (AAA)	.333	31	120	20	40	6	1	5	25	9	18	0
1974	Tulsa (AAA)	.351	102	353	67	124	18	6	14	63	48	50	0
1974	St. Louis (NL)	.294	14	34	3	10	1	2	0	2	7	8	0
1975	St. Louis (NL)	.250	64	188	20	47	8	2	3	20	17	26	0
1975	Tulsa (AAA)	.330	85	324	70	107	29	3	10	48	62	48	3
1976	St. Louis (NL)	.289	129	374	54	108	21	5	7	46	49	53	4
1977	St. Louis (NL)	.291	161	560	90	163	41	4	15	91	79	88	7
1978	St. Louis (NL)	.255	159	542	90	138	32	4	11	64	82	68	13
1979	St. Louis (NL)	.344	161	610	116	210	48	11	11	105	80	78	11
1980	St. Louis (NL)	.321	159	595	111	191	39	8	16	99	86	73	14
1981	St. Louis (NL)	.306	103	376	65	115	27	4	8	48	61	45	12
1982	St. Louis (NL)	.299	160	579	79	173	33	6	7	94	100	67	19
1983	StL-Mets (NL)	.297	150	538	77	160	23	7	12	63	88	72	9
1984	Mets (NL)	.311	154	550	83	171	31	0	15	94	97	89	2
1985	Mets (NL)	.309	158	593	87	183	34	4	10	91	77	59	3
1986	Mets (NL)	.310	149	551	94	171	34	1	13	83	94	69	2
Major League Totals		.302	1721	6090	969	1840	372	58	128	900	917	795	96

GWRBI: 1980—13; 1981—10; 1982—21; 1983—9; 1984—17; 1985—24; 1986—13. Total—107.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1982	St. Louis (NL)	.333	3	12	3	4	0	0	0	1	2	3	0
1986	Mets (NL)	.269	6	26	3	7	1	1	0	3	3	6	0
LCS Totals		.289	9	38	6	11	1	1	0	4	5	9	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1982	St. Louis (NL)	.259	7	27	4	7	2	0	1	8	4	2	0
1986	Mets (NL)	.231	7	26	1	6	0	0	0	4	5	1	0
World Series Totals		.245	14	53	5	13	2	0	1	12	9	3	0

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	LEAGUE, SITE	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1979	National, Seattle	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1980	National, Los Angeles	1.000	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1984	National, San Francisco	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1986	National, Houston	.000	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
All-Star Game Totals		.250	4	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0

HOWARD JOHNSON 20

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1979	Lakeland (A)	.235	132	456	49	107	9	6	3	49	69	85	18
1980	Lakeland (A)	.285	130	474	83	135	28	1	10	69	73	75	31
1981	Birmingham (AA)	.266	138	488	84	130	28	7	22	83	75	93	19
1982	Evansville (AAA)	.317	98	336	70	116	16	4	23	67	46	62	35
1982	Detroit (AL)	.316	54	155	23	49	5	0	4	14	16	30	7
1983	Detroit (AL)	.212	27	66	11	14	0	0	3	5	7	10	0
1983	Evansville (AAA)	.222	3	9	1	2	1	0	0	0	4	2	0
1984	Detroit (AL)	.248	116	355	43	88	14	1	12	50	40	67	10
1985	Mets (NL)	.242	126	389	38	94	18	4	11	46	34	78	6
1986	Mets (NL)	.245	88	220	30	54	14	0	10	39	31	64	8
Major League Totals		.252	411	1185	145	299	51	5	40	154	128	249	31

GWRBI: 1982—0; 1983—0; 1984—8; 1985—8; 1986—3. Total—19.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1984	Detroit (AL)					(Did not play)							
1986	Mets (NL)	.000	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
LCS Totals		.000	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1984	Detroit (AL)	.000	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1986	Mets (NL)	.000	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
World Series Totals		.000	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0

TERRY LEACH 26

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1976	Baton Rouge (A)	2-0	6.16	5	1	1	0	0	19.	43	21	13	14	15
1977	Greenwood (A)	3-2	2.55	20	0	0	0	3	67.	47	25	19	24	67
1978	Savannah (AA)	1-0	5.04	9	2	0	0	0	25.	24	17	14	13	21
1978	Kinston (A)	5-4	3.27	34	0	0	0	8	66.	57	29	24	25	46
1979	Savannah (AA)	2-9	1.96	40	0	0	0	2	92.	77	33	20	26	68
1979	Richmond (AAA)	3-1	1.93	7	2	1	0	1	14.	14	3	3	4	12
1980	Savannah (AA)	5-1	3.66	24	5	2	0	1	91.	90	43	37	20	60
1980	Jackson (AA)	5-1	1.50	8	7	3	2	0	54.	50	16	9	15	30
1981	Jackson (AA)	5-1	1.71	8	7	2	1	0	58.	47	14	11	12	43
1981	Tidewater (AAA)	5-2	2.72	15	8	4	1	0	76.	63	27	23	19	42
1981	Mets (NL)	1-1	2.57	21	1	0	0	0	35.	26	11	10	12	16
1982	Tidewater (AAA)	4-1	2.96	30	0	0	0	5	49.	48	20	16	19	34
1982	Mets (NL)	2-1	4.17	21	1	1	1	3	45.1	46	22	21	18	30
1983	Tidewater (AAA)	5-7	4.46	37	7	2	0	6	113.	120	66	56	42	66
1984	Richmond (AAA)	1-2	9.20	12	0	0	0	1	14.2	28	16	15	3	6
1984	Tidewater (AAA)	10-2	1.90	31	0	0	0	0	80.1	70	26	17	27	53
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	1-0	1.59	24	0	0	0	4	45.1	33	12	8	8	25
1985	Mets (NL)	3-4	2.91	22	4	1	1	1	55.2	48	19	18	14	30
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	4-4	2.49	34	4	1	0	7	79.2	69	30	22	21	56
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	2.70	6	0	0	0	0	6.2	6	3	2	3	4
Major League Totals		6-6	3.22	70	6	2	2	4	142.2	126	55	51	47	80

GWRBI: 1981—0; 1982—0; 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0

BARRY LYONS 33

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1982	Shelby (A)	.280	45	164	23	46	12	0	4	46	24	10	0
1983	Lynchburg (A)	.143	2	7	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
1983	Columbia (A)	.297	92	316	55	94	9	2	5	45	42	32	3
1984	Lynchburg (A)	.316	115	412	60	130	17	3	12	87	45	40	1
1985	Jackson (AA)	.307	126	486	69	149	34	6	11	108	25	67	3
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	.295	61	234	28	69	16	0	4	46	18	32	0
1986	Mets (NL)	.000	6	9	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0
Major League Totals		.000	6	9	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0

GWRBI: 1986-0. Total-0.

DAVE MAGADAN 29

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1983	Columbia (A)	.336	64	220	41	74	13	1	3	32	51	29	2
1984	Lynchburg (A)	.350	112	371	78	130	22	4	0	62	104	43	2
1985	Jackson (AA)	.309	134	466	84	144	22	0	0	76	106	57	0
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	.311	133	473	68	147	33	6	1	64	84	45	2
1986	Mets (NL)	.444	10	18	3	8	0	0	0	3	3	1	0
Major League Totals		.444	10	18	3	8	0	0	0	3	3	1	0

GWRBI: 1986—2. Total—2.

LEE MAZZILLI 13

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1974	Anderson (A)	.269	132	472	82	127	24	3	11	48	76	89	46
1975	Visalia (A)	.281	125	430	103	121	10	4	13	52	88	72	49
1976	Jackson (AA)	.292	131	439	91	128	21	6	13	43	111	69	28
1976	Mets (NL)	.195	24	77	9	15	2	0	2	7	14	10	5
1977	Mets (NL)	.250	159	537	66	134	24	3	6	46	72	72	22
1978	Mets (NL)	.273	148	542	78	148	28	5	16	61	69	82	20
1979	Mets (NL)	.303	158	597	78	181	34	4	15	79	93	74	34
1980	Mets (NL)	.280	152	578	82	162	31	4	16	76	82	92	41
1981	Mets (NL)	.288	95	324	36	74	14	5	6	34	46	53	17
1982	Tex.-N.Y. (AL)	.251	95	323	43	81	10	0	10	34	43	41	13
1983	Pittsburgh (NL)	.240	109	246	37	59	9	0	5	24	49	43	15
1984	Pittsburgh (NL)	.237	111	266	37	63	11	1	4	21	40	42	8
1985	Pittsburgh (NL)	.282	92	117	20	33	8	0	1	9	29	17	4
1986	Pgh-N.Y. (NL)	.245	100	151	28	37	5	1	3	15	38	36	4
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	.300	6	20	3	6	1	0	1	1	3	2	2
Major League Totals		.263	1243	3758	514	987	176	23	84	406	575	562	183

GWRBI: 1980—4; 1981—4; 1982—2; 1983—5; 1984—2; 1985—1; 1986-0. Total—18.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.200	5	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.400	4	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	LEAGUE, SITE	AVG	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1979	National, Seattle	1.000	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0

ROGER McDOWELL 42

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1982	Shelby (A)	6-4	3.28	12	11	4	0	0	71.	61	34	26	30	40
1982	Lynchburg (A)	2-0	2.15	4	4	2	1	0	29.	26	12	7	11	23
1983	Jackson (AA)	11-12	4.86	27	26	9	1	0	172.	203	111	93	7;	115
1984	Jackson (AA)	0-0	3.68	3	2	0	0	0	7.1	9	3	3	1	8
1985	Mets (NL)	6-5	2.83	62	2	0	0	17	127.1	108	43	40	37	70
1986	Mets (NL)	14-9	3.02	75	0	0	0	22	128.	107	48	43	42	65
Major League Totals		20-14	2.93	137	2	0	0	39	255.1	215	91	83	79	135

GWRBI: 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	2	0	0	0	0	7.	1	0	0	0	3

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	1-0	4.91	5	0	0	0	0	7.1	10	5	4	6	2

KEVIN McREYNOLDS 22

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1982	Reno (A)	.376	90	338	83	127	17	5	28	98	36	50	0
1982	Amarillo (AA)	.352	40	162	30	57	8	3	5	39	12	32	4
1983	Las Vegas (AAA)	.377	113	446	98	168	46	9	32	116	41	55	14
1983	San Diego (NL)	.221	39	140	15	31	3	1	4	14	12	29	2
1984	San Diego (NL)	.278	147	525	68	146	26	6	20	75	34	69	3
1985	San Diego (NL)	.234	152	564	61	132	24	4	15	75	43	81	4
1986	San Diego (NL)	.288	158	560	89	161	31	6	26	96	66	83	8
Major League Totals		.263	496	1789	233	470	84	17	65	260	155	262	17

GWRBI: 1983—2; 1984—10; 1985—12; 1986—14. Total—38.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1984	San Diego (NL)	.300	4	10	2	3	0	0	1	4	3	1	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1984	San Diego (NL)	(Did not play—injured)											

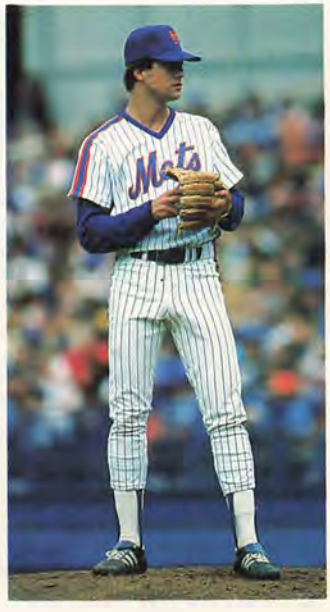
KEITH MILLER 25

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1985	Lynchburg (A)	.302	89	325	51	98	16	5	7	54	39	52	14
1985	Jackson (AA)	.224	46	165	17	37	8	1	3	22	12	38	8
1986	Jackson (AA)	.329	94	353	80	116	23	4	5	36	62	56	23

JOHN MITCHELL 43

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1983	Elmira (a)	5-6	4.90	16	10	2	1	0	75.1	78	57	41	41	72
1984	Winter Haven (A)	16-9	3.14	27	27	4	0	0	183.2	160	84	64	66	109
1985	New Britain (AA)	12-8	2.70	26	26	10	1	0	190.1	143	71	57	61	108
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	12-9	3.39	27	27	5	2	0	172.1	162	78	65	58	83
1986	Mets (NL)	0-1	3.60	4	1	0	0	0	10.	10	4	4	4	2
Major League Totals		0-1	3.60	4	1	0	0	0	10.	10	4	4	4	2

GWRBI: 1986—0. Total—0.



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Con Edison PROJECT APPLESEED

THE ENERGY OF NEW YORK

RANDY MYERS 48

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1982	Kingsport (Rookie)	6-3	4.12	13	13	1	0	0	74.	68	49	34	69	86
1983	Columbia (A)	14-10	3.63	28	28	3	0	0	173.	146	94	70	108	164
1984	Lynchburg (A)	13-5	2.06	23	22	7	1	0	157.	123	46	36	61	171
1984	Jackson (AA)	2-1	2.06	5	5	1	0	0	35.	29	14	8	16	35
1985	Jackson (AA)	4-8	3.96	19	19	2	1	0	120.1	99	61	53	69	116
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	1-1	1.84	8	7	0	0	0	44.	40	13	9	20	25
1985	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	2.	0	0	0	1	2
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	6-7	2.35	45	0	0	0	12	65.	44	19	17	44	79
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	4.22	10	0	0	0	0	10.2	11	5	5	9	13
Major League Totals		0-0	3.55	11	0	0	0	0	12.2	11	5	5	10	15

GWRBI: 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0.

BOB OJEDA 19

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1978	Elmira (A)	1-6	4.81	18	3	0	0	2	43.	45	32	23	43	35
1979	Winter Haven (A)	15-7	2.43	29	29	8	2	0	200.	163	66	54	84	150
1980	Pawtucket (AAA)	6-7	3.22	19	18	4	0	0	123.	107	54	44	56	78
1980	Boston (AL)	1-1	6.92	7	7	0	0	0	26.	39	20	20	14	12
1981	Pawtucket (AAA)	12-9	2.13	25	23	8	0	0	173.	136	52	41	73	113
1981	Boston (AL)	6-2	3.12	10	10	2	0	0	66.1	50	25	23	25	28
1982	Boston (AL)	4-6	5.63	22	14	0	0	0	78.1	95	53	49	29	52
1983	Boston (AL)	12-7	4.04	29	28	5	0	0	173.2	173	85	78	73	94
1984	Boston (AL)	12-12	3.99	33	32	8	5	0	216.2	211	106	96	96	137
1985	Boston (AL)	9-11	4.00	39	22	5	0	1	157.2	166	74	70	48	102
1986	Mets (NL)	18-5	2.57	32	30	7	2	0	217.1	185	72	62	52	148
Major League Totals		62-44	3.83	172	143	27	7	1	936	919	435	398	337	573

GWRBI: 1980—0; 1981—0; 1982—0; 1983—0; 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	1-0	2.57	2	2	1	0	0	14.	15	4	4	4	6

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	1-0	2.08	2	2	0	0	0	13.	13	3	3	5	9

JESSE OROSCO 47

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1978	Elizabethton (Rookie)	4-4	1.13	20	0	0	0	6	40.	29	7	5	20	48
1979	Mets (NL)	1-2	4.89	18	2	0	0	0	35.	33	20	19	22	22
1979	Tidewater (AAA)	4-4	3.89	16	15	1	0	0	81.	82	45	35	43	55
1980	Jackson (AA)	4-4	3.68	37	1	0	0	3	71.	52	36	29	62	85
1981	Tidewater (AAA)	9-5	3.31	46	10	0	0	8	87.	80	39	32	32	81
1981	Mets (NL)	0-1	1.59	8	0	0	0	1	17.	13	4	3	6	18
1982	Mets (NL)	4-10	2.72	54	2	0	0	4	109.1	92	37	33	40	89
1983	Mets (NL)	13-7	1.47	62	0	0	0	17	110.	76	27	18	38	84
1984	Mets (NL)	10-6	2.59	60	0	0	0	31	87.	58	29	25	34	85
1985	Mets (NL)	8-6	2.73	54	0	0	0	17	79.	66	26	24	34	68
1986	Mets (NL)	8-6	2.33	58	0	0	0	21	81.	64	23	21	35	62
Major League Totals		44-38	2.48	314	4	0	0	91	518.1	402	166	143	209	428

GWRBI: 1981—0; 1982—0; 1983—0; 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	3-0	3.38	4	0	0	0	0	8.	5	3	3	2	10

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	4	0	0	0	2	5.2	2	0	0	0	6

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1983	Natl., Chicago, (AL)	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	.1	0	0	0	0	1
1984	Natl., San Francisco					(Selected, did not pitch)								
All-Star Game Totals		0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	.1	0	0	0	0	1

RAFAEL SANTANA 3

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1977	Oneonta (A)	.261	60	157	26	41	5	0	0	23	19	19	5
1978	Ft. Lauderdale (A)	.258	131	431	37	111	8	5	0	35	29	63	4
1979	Ft. Lauderdale (A)	.263	133	472	62	124	9	6	0	41	36	53	12
1980	Ft. Lauderdale (A)	.226	51	168	20	38	2	0	1	17	23	12	4
1980	Nashville (AA)	.233	86	275	33	64	4	3	0	20	23	23	7
1981	Arkansas (AA)	.233	110	326	34	76	14	3	0	19	24	43	2
1981	Springfield (AAA)	.500	2	8	3	4	1	0	1	2	0	0	1
1982	Louisville (AAA)	.286	121	430	65	123	15	3	3	53	27	46	16
1983	St. Louis (NL)	.214	30	14	1	3	0	0	0	2	2	2	0
1983	Louisville (AAA)	.281	45	167	19	47	9	1	0	20	5	24	3
1984	Tidewater (AAA)	.278	77	255	34	71	6	0	1	23	11	19	10
1984	Mets (NL)	.276	51	152	14	42	11	1	1	12	9	17	0
1985	Mets (NL)	.257	154	529	41	136	19	1	1	29	29	54	1
1986	Mets (NL)	.218	139	394	38	86	11	0	1	28	36	43	0
Major League Totals		.245	374	1089	94	267	41	2	3	71	76	116	1

GWRBI: 1983—0; 1984—2; 1985—6; 1986—2. Total—10.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.176	6	17	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.250	7	20	3	5	0	0	0	2	2	5	0

DOUG SISK 39

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1980	Kingsport (Rookie)	8-5	2.66	15	15	4	0	0	98.	91	46	29	45	41
1981	Lynchburg (A)	3-2	3.25	36	1	0	0	7	83.	78	35	30	32	61
1981	Jackson (AA)	3-0	3.60	14	0	0	0	4	25.	23	11	10	12	15
1982	Jackson (AA)	11-7	2.67	44	9	6	0	5	138.	136	59	41	58	53
1982	Mets (NL)	0-1	1.04	8	0	0	0	1	8.2	5	1	1	4	4
1983	Mets (NL)	5-4	2.24	67	0	0	0	11	104.1	88	38	26	59	33
1984	Mets (NL)	1-3	2.09	50	0	0	0	15	77.2	57	24	18	54	32
1985	Tidewater (AAA)	0-2	7.20	4	3	0	0	0	15.	15	12	12	13	4
1985	Mets (NL)	4-5	5.30	42	0	0	0	2	73.	86	48	43	40	26
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	2-3	4.20	9	4	0	0	2	30.	34	16	14	9	19
1986	Mets (NL)	4-2	3.06	41	0	0	0	1	70.2	77	31	24	31	31
Major League Totals		14-15	3.01	208	0	0	0	30	334.1	313	142	112	188	126

GWRBI: 1982—0; 1983—0; 1984—0; 1985—0; 1986—0. Total—0.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	1.	1	0	0	1	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	W-L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
1986	Mets (NL)	0-0	0.00	1	0	0	0	0	.2	0	0	0	1	1

DARRYL STRAWBERRY 18

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1980	Kingsport (Rookie)	.268	44	157	27	42	5	2	5	20	20	39	5
1981	Lynchburg (A)	.255	123	420	84	107	22	6	13	78	82	105	31
1982	Jackson (AA)	.283	129	435	93	123	19	9	34	97	100	145	45
1983	Tidewater (AAA)	.333	16	57	12	19	4	1	3	13	14	18	7
1983	Mets (NL)	.257	122	420	63	108	15	7	26	74	47	128	19
1984	Mets (NL)	.251	147	522	75	131	27	4	26	97	75	131	27
1985	Mets (NL)	.277	111	393	78	109	15	4	29	79	73	96	26
1986	Mets (NL)	.259	136	475	76	123	27	5	27	93	72	141	28
Major League Totals		.260	516	1810	292	471	84	20	108	343	267	496	100

GWRBI: 1983—11; 1984—8; 1985—8; 1986—15. Total—42.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.227	6	22	4	5	1	0	2	5	3	12	1

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.208	7	24	4	5	1	0	1	1	4	6	3

ALL-STAR GAME RECORD

YEAR	LEAGUE, SITE	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1984	National, San Francisco	.500	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1985	National, Minnesota	1.000	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1986	National, Houston	.500	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
All-Star Game Totals		.600	3	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	1

TIM TEUFEL 11

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1980	Orlando (A)	.265	86	287	38	76	15	3	11	47	49	61	3
1981	Orlando (A)	.248	128	416	69	103	21	5	17	60	45	80	4
1982	Orlando (A)	.282	100	340	52	96	12	4	9	56	67	51	16
1982	Toledo (AAA)	.282	45	149	25	42	10	4	6	20	15	23	1
1983	Toledo (AAA)	.323	136	471	103	152	27	6	27	100	102	71	13
1983	Minnesota (AL)	.308	21	78	11	24	7	1	3	6	2	8	0
1984	Minnesota (AL)	.262	157	568	76	149	30	3	14	61	76	73	1
1985	Minnesota (AL)	.260	138	434	58	113	24	3	10	50	48	70	4
1986	Mets (NL)	.247	93	279	35	69	20	1	4	31	32	42	1
Major League Totals		.261	409	1359	180	355	81	8	31	148	158	193	6

GWRBI: 1983—3; 1984—10; 1985—4; 1986—3. Total—20.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.167	2	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.444	3	9	1	4	1	0	1	1	1	2	0

MOOKIE WILSON 1

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1977	Wausau (A)	.290	68	245	50	71	10	2	6	32	33	57	23
1978	Jackson (AA)	.292	132	497	72	145	13	15	7	72	39	70	38
1979	Tidewater (AAA)	.267	141	529	84	141	22	10	5	36	45	91	49
1980	Tidewater (AAA)	.295	132	515	92	152	11	14	4	44	44	86	50
1980	Mets (NL)	.248	27	105	16	26	5	3	0	4	12	19	7
1981	Mets (NL)	.271	92	328	49	89	8	8	3	14	20	59	24
1982	Mets (NL)	.279	159	639	90	178	25	9	5	55	32	102	58
1983	Mets (NL)	.276	152	638	91	176	25	6	7	51	18	103	54
1984	Mets (NL)	.276	154	587	88	162	28	10	10	54	26	90	46
1985	Mets (NL)	.276	93	337	56	93	16	8	6	26	28	52	24
1986	Tidewater (AAA)	.258	9	31	4	8	1	0	0	4	3	7	4
1986	Mets (NL)	.289	123	381	61	110	17	5	9	45	32	72	25
Major League Totals		.277	800	3015	451	834	124	49	40	249	168	497	238

GWRBI: 1980—0; 1981—2; 1982—5; 1983—6; 1984—7; 1985-1; 1986—5. Total—26.

CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.115	6	26	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	7	1

WORLD SERIES RECORD

YEAR	CLUB	AVG	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB
1986	Mets (NL)	.269	7	26	3	7	1	0	0	0	1	6	3

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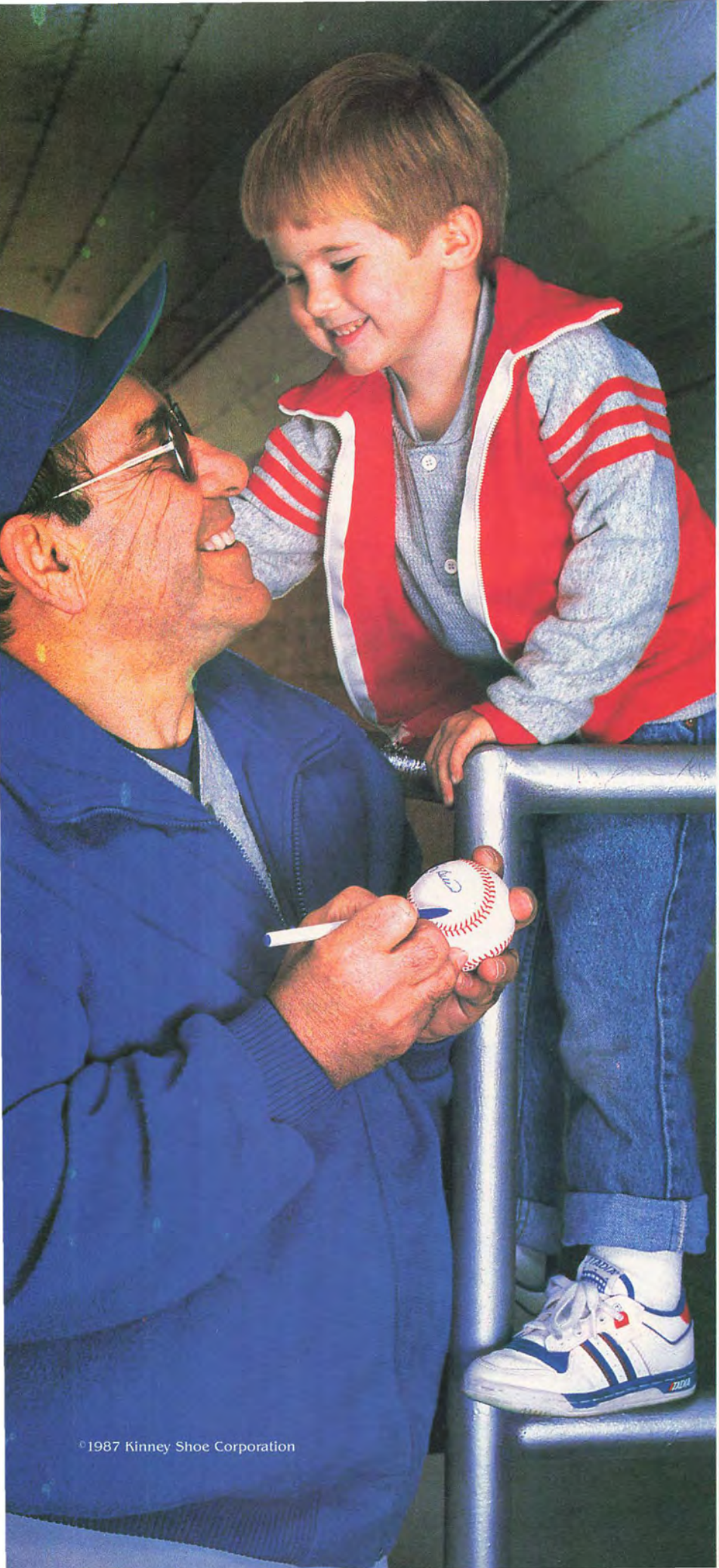

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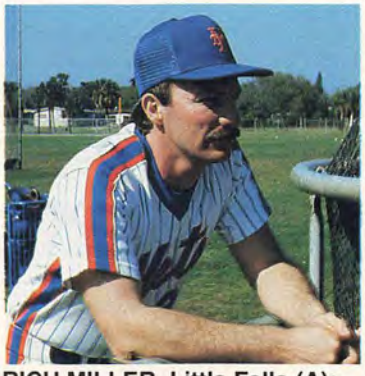
MINOR LEAGUE MANAGERS

BUTCH HOBSON, Columbia (A): Former major league infielder who makes his managerial debut this season... Had 98 HR, 397 RBI and a .248 career average with the Red Sox, Angels and Yankees, 1975-82... Had 30 HR and 112 RBI with BoSox in '77...Former QB under Bear Bryant at the University of Alabama.

MIKE CUBBAGE, Tidewater (AAA): In his first year of managing at the Triple-A level...Last year, led Jackson to 72-63 mark and first half Eastern Division title in Texas League... Has a 304-184 (.623) lifetime managerial mark...Former major league infielder finished career with Mets in 1981.

JOHN TAMARGO, Lynchburg (A): Served Mets as a minor league instructor last season... This is his first managerial assignment since 1983, when he led Columbia to an 88-54 mark and titles in both halves of the season in the South Atlantic League's South Division...Had a .242 career average with the Cards, Expos and Giants, 1976-80.



RICH MILLER, Little Falls (A): Has compiled a 305-256 (.544) record in five years as a pro manager...Last year, he led Little Falls to a second place finish in the NY-Penn League's Yawkey Division...Former outfielder, played in the Mets' system from 1973-80.

BOBBY FLOYD, Kingsport (A): Led Lynchburg to a 75-65 mark last year and second place finishes in both halves of the Carolina League's Northern Division...Has won 667 games in 10 years as a pro manager...In his second year in the Mets' system... Teammate of Davey Johnson on 1969 AL Champion Orioles.

TUCKER ASHFORD, Jackson (AA): Managed the Columbia Mets to the South Atlantic League title last year with a 90-42 record, winning Casey Stengel Award as top manager in Mets' system... Played in 222 major league games from 1976-84, and is one of the 34 players to appear for both Mets and Yankees.

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ON THE WAY UP

KEVIN ELSTER, INF: Named to Texas League Eastern Division All-Star team in '86. . . Led all League shortstops in fielding, double plays, assists and total chances. . . Had a 14-game hit streak for Jackson in late July . . . Purchased by Mets in late August, and saw action in both the playoffs and the World Series.

GREGG JEFFERIES, INF: Baseball America's 1986 Minor League Player of the Year. . . Began season at Columbia, batting .339. . . Then went to Lynchburg where he hit .354 with 11 homers and 80 RBI to be named Carolina League MVP. . . Finished up at Jackson, batting .421 (8-19) with seven RBI. . . On the year, he hit .353 with 111 RBI.

JOHN GIBBONS, C: Established himself as one of the International League's top defensive catchers in '86. . . Led the League's backstops with a .993 fielding average. . . . Batted .286 in May and .275 in August for Tides. . . Played in eight games for the Mets, and was the middleman in memorable CF-Home Plate-3B double play vs. Padres, August 27. . . Traveled with Mets in post-season.

TOM McCARTHY, RHP: Went 3-2 with a 4.04 ERA in 22 outings for Tidewater in '86, in a season cut short by shoulder surgery. . . Acquired from Boston in Bob Ojeda deal, and saw action in three games for the Red Sox in '85.

MARK CARREON, OF: Collected 64 RBI for Tidewater in '86, tying Dave Magadan for the club lead. . . Tenth in the International League in hitting at .289. . . Hit .366 with men in scoring position. . . Struck out only 42 times in 426 at bats. . . Son of former major leaguer Camilo Carreon.

DAVE WEST, LHP: Started year at Lynchburg, then went to Columbia of South Atlantic League, where he went 10-3 with a 2.91 ERA and 101 strikeouts in 92.1 innings. . . Named one of the League's top ten prospects by Baseball America. . . Second in the South Atlantic League with 194 Ks in '85.

ON THE WAY UP

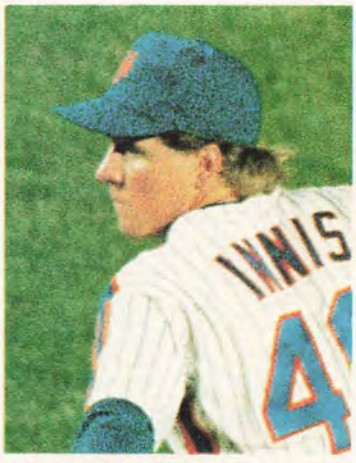
TERRY BLOCKER, OF: Hit .288 for Tidewater last year, with nine homers, 48 RBI and 21 steals... Hit .338 in August, including a 13-game hit streak... Hit in 38 of his last 42 contests... Appeared in 18 games for the Mets in '85.

REGGIE DOBIE, RHP: At Jackson in '86, he was third in the Texas League in wins (13), led in starts (27) and was third in Ks (123)... Won seven of his last eight decisions. Fourth in Carolina League with 144 Ks in 1985, led the South Atlantic League with 128 in '84.

GREG OLSON, C: Played at Triple-A for first time in career in '86, batting .327 in 19 games for Tidewater... Also appeared in 64 games for Jackson... Threw out 42 of 88 runners trying to steal on the season, for 48 per cent.

BRIAN GIVENS, LHP: Led the South Atlantic League with 189 strikeouts in '86... Went 8-7 for Columbia, and was second in the League with 27 starts... Has fanned 346 in 311 innings in three years as a pro... Named one of the League's top ten prospects by Baseball America.

MARCUS LAWTON, OF: For Lynchburg in '86, he led the Carolina League in games (141), runs (118), triples (16), walks (102) and at bats (567)... Also second in hits (158) and fourth in steals (58)... Has stolen 169 bases in last two years... Named to '86 Carolina League All-Star squad... 111 steals for Columbia in '85 are a Mets organizational record.



JEFF INNIS, RHP: Set a Jackson club record with 25 saves in '86, and was named to Texas League All-Star team... Fourth in League in games pitched (56)... Averaged more than a strikeout per inning in his pro career... Was 5-1, 1.71 for Tidewater in '87, earning a call to New York.

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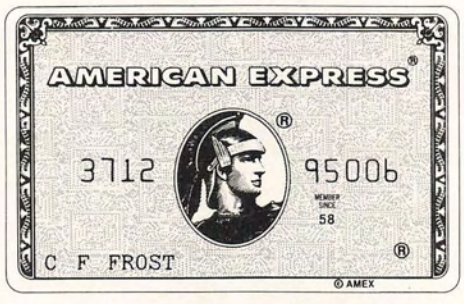

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SCOUTING A CHAMPION

If might be the biggest little word in the English language, but around Shea Stadium it's a conjunction neither Joe McIlvaine nor Roland Johnson will tolerate in a scouting report.

"We pay scouts for their opinions and an opinion is what we want," the bespectacled Johnson said. What that means is Johnson, who replaced McIlvaine as The Mets' Scouting Director when the latter became vice president, baseball operations in October, 1985, doesn't want any of his 20 fulltime scouts or 30 part-timers to file a report peppered with the little word that Rudyard Kipling handled so elegantly.

Roland Johnson, Director of Scouting

Thus, a report that reads how a player could be a prospect "if he learns to lay off the outside pitch" or "if he learns to hit the inside pitch" doesn't tell Johnson a thing.

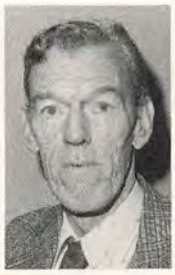
"What we want to know," he explained, "is whether, in that scout's opinion, the player can lay off the outside pitch or handle the inside one."

Anyone following the half dozen minor league clubs that comprise the Mets' farm system knows Johnson's scouting corps, a group neatly leavened with youth and experience, have been refraining from using the word if. As a result, it's easy to see why the farmhands have produced eight league championships in the past four years.

To most people a scout is a guy who signs young prospects and sends them into professional baseball. That's true, but it's an over-simplification. Scouts do that, but there's more to it than getting an autograph on a contract.

Dick Gernert

Darrell Johnson



Buddy Kerr

Bob Wellman

Harry Minor

Phil Favia

Junior Roman

Eddy Toledo

Rob Guzik

Jack Zduriencik

For instance, the Mets have five special assignment scouts, each of whom has specified duties. Dick Gernert, former Red Sox first baseman, is the Mets' advance man. He scouts their upcoming opponents and reports his findings to manager Davey Johnson.

"If we're scheduled to play in Chicago on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, then you can bet Dick is watching the Cubs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday," Johnson explained.

Former major leaguers Darrell Johnson, Buddy Kerr and Bob Wellman, plus longtime scout Harry Minor are the other special assignment men. They, along with McIlvaine and Johnson, work as cross-checkers, scouts who criss-cross the nation to evaluate the high school and collegians eligible for the annual June free agent draft.

"It's not that we don't accept the opinion of our scout in the field," the 46-year-old Johnson said. "It's just that we want an experienced opinion. Say, one of our scouts likes a boy in California and another likes one in Texas.

"Now the area scout in California hasn't seen the prospect in Texas and we use cross-checkers to see both and it helps in the final evaluation."

The checkers aren't second guessers, they're just comparing players from different parts of the country. In addition to the United States, the Mets also employ two Latin American scouts, Junior Roman in Puerto Rico and Eddy Toledo in the Dominican Republic.

The Mets go deeper than baseball talent. In addition to a youngster's tools they're interested in his mental development, too. "We use psychological testing," Johnson said. "We want to know about attitude, mental toughness, emotional control and confidence. You know, if

you're going to invest maybe $50,000 or $100,000 in a boy you'd better know a bit more than the fact he can hit, run or throw."

Once the June lottery is completed, the Mets, as do most clubs, turn to professional scouting. That means a look at every league and the compilation of reports not only on their players but everyone else in pro ball. That's followed by fall scouting with agents inspecting collegians, junior collegians and the Instructional League.

Another thing Johnson and the Mets are trying to accomplish is to develop scouts. He believes it takes four to five years for one to mature, to get the feel.

"We're not afraid to hire a young fellow and bring him along," the Connecticut resident explained. "To make a good scout we believe you have to expose him to different levels of pro ball. That's why in the summer, after the draft, we send two scouts to see each of our minor league clubs and we move the scouts at different levels.

"We want them to evaluate our clubs, we want their opinions. We tell a scout we don't care if six other scouts like a player and he doesn't—tell us why and give us your opinion."

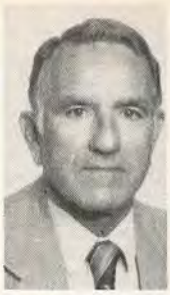
All this is what makes a farm system reap and what helps keep it fertile. It was the farms that made possible the trades that put Keith Hernandez, Gary Carter, Bob Ojeda and Kevin McReynolds in Mets' uniforms.

"There's no way we could have made those deals without our farms," Johnson said. "Sure we gave up minor league prospects, but we were able to do so only because we had youngsters who, in our opinion, could replace the ones we traded away. That's how the McReynolds' deal was made. We had the young players the Padres were looking for."

It's the scouts who find those players, scouts such as Marv Scott, who covers the Washington and Oregon areas. A Mets' employee for more than 20 years, Scott has four signees—Rick Anderson, Wally Backman, Randy Myers and Doug Sisk—on the varsity roster this spring.

As for what the future holds, Johnson can only speculate. He's neither a seer nor a magician. But what he does know is his scouts won't be complacent because of the Mets' recent success.

"Our scouts will keep getting those players," he said. "That's our job right now—keep that talent flowing."



Carlos Pascual

Julian Morgan

Len Zanke

Marv Scott

Bob Minor

Marty Harvat

Terry Tripp

Carmen Fusco

Roy Partee

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JULIAN MORGAN, 733 Kiowa Drive NE, Marietta, GA 30060 (Ga, SC, No. Florida)

ROY PARTEE, Drawer AJ, Trinidad, Cal. 95570 (Nev, No. Cal, Utah)

CARLOS PASCUAL, 2540 SW 92nd Court, Miami, Fla., 33165 (So. Florida)

JUNIOR ROMAN, Calle 10 P#12, Colinas Verdes, San Sebastian, PR, 00755 (Puerto Rico)

MARV SCOTT, 7311 Skyview Pl., N., F101, Tacoma, Wash., 98406 (Wash, Ore)

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JACK ZDURIENCIK, 1412 N. Poplar Ave., Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (Texas, Okla, Mo)

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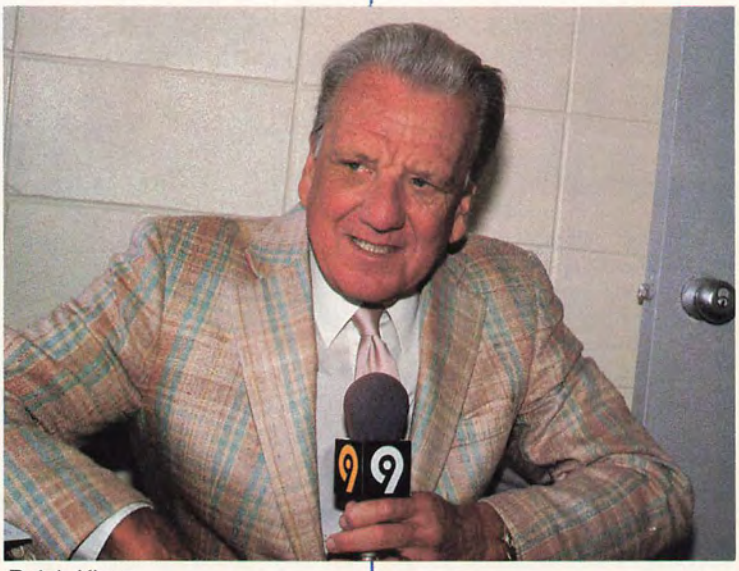
(WWOR-TV and SportsChannel)



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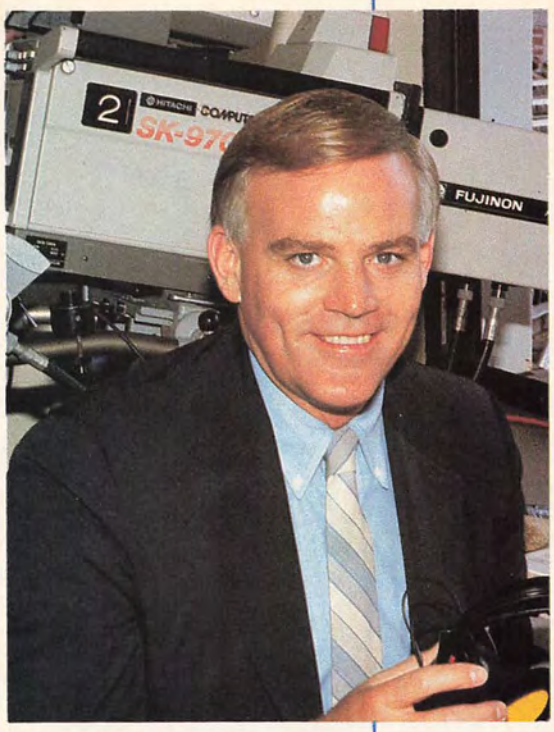

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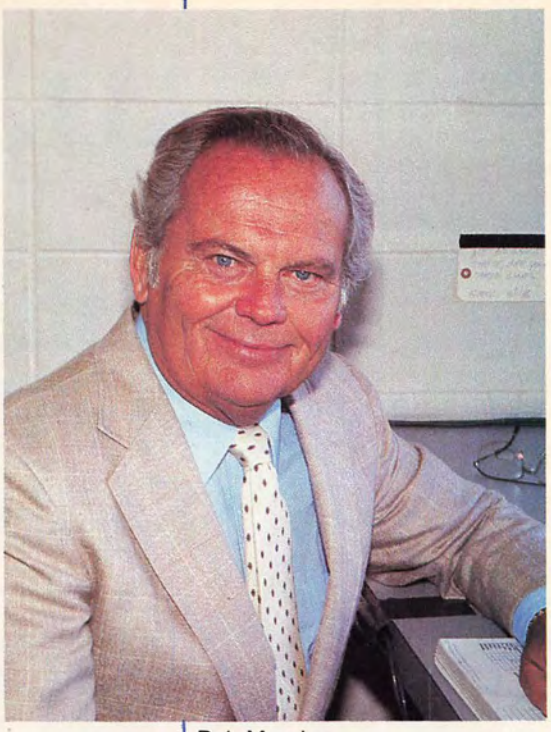

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Rusty Staub
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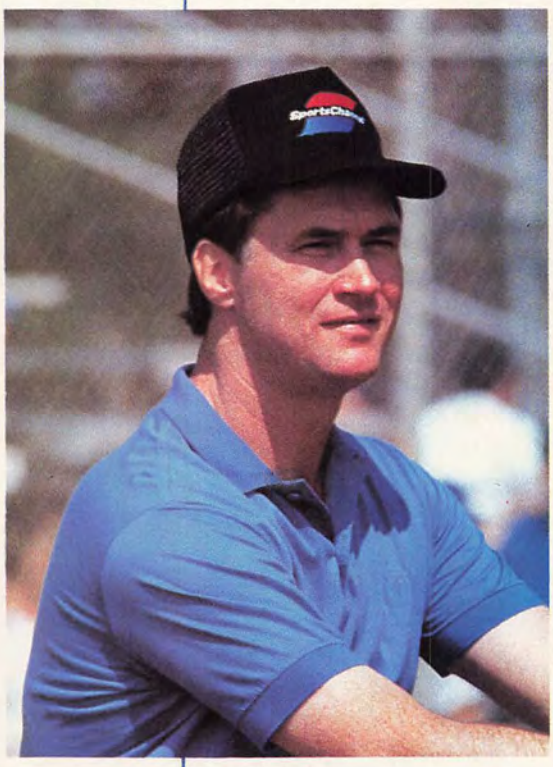

Fran Healy
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Roger and Karen McDowell

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Mary Nan and Davey Johnson, with Dawn, Dave Jr. and Andrea

Leticia and Jesse Orosco

Mookie and Rosa Wilson with Ernestine, Preston and Adesina

Gary and Sandy Carter with Christy, Kim and D.J.

Howard and Kim Johnson with Shannon Leigh

Margie and Wally Backman with Walter II and Jennifer

Tim and Valerie Teufel with little Shawn

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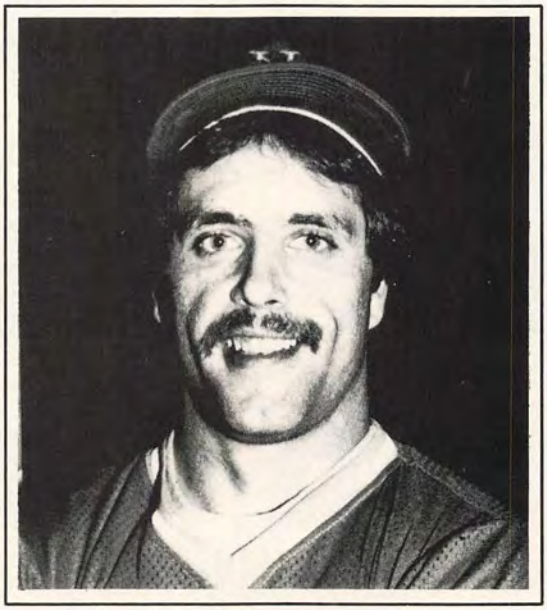


"Win a small fortune in my favorite Sports Section"
— Wally Backman

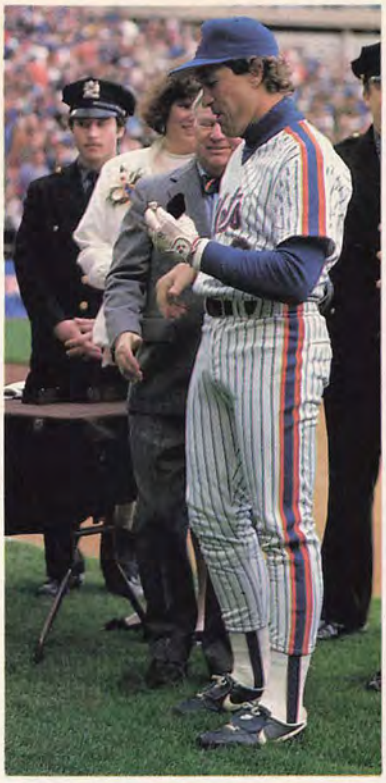
If a Met homers in the designated inning, the two eligible contestants can each take home one thousand dollars! And if a Met smashes a grand-slammer during that special inning, the eligible contestants each collect $10,000!

It's easy. It's fun. See the Daily News for all rules and entry forms! No Purchase Necessary.

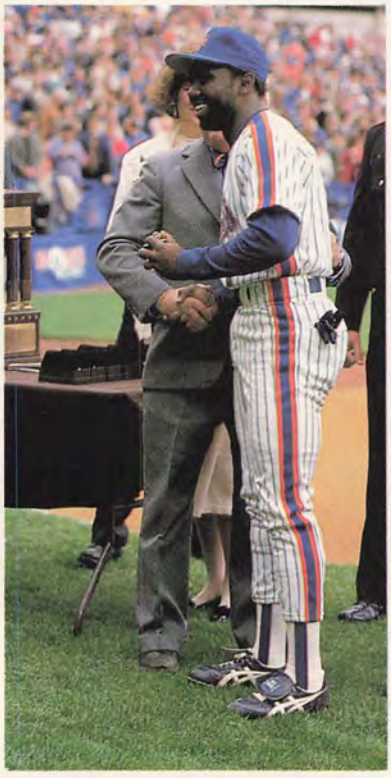
Wally Backman

DAILY NEWS
Sports

OFF THE FIELD



Opening Day and the magic moment: Gary, Mookie and Rafael receive their coveted World Championship rings.



From the first inning to last . . . . We get you the scores . . . *Fast!*

SPORTS PHONE®

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(516)
(718)
(914)

976-1313

Brought to you by THE DAILY NEWS

Catch up to the action with Sports Phone® this baseball season, featuring 10 minute in-progress updates on all the scores as they happen. PLUS 24 hours a day, we'll keep you informed on all the baseball news—Fast and First!

A local call in these areas, long distance elsewhere. By Phone Programs, Inc.

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They agree on Rawlings.

"The Finest In The Field"® for 100 years.

We're the leading supplier of equipment to the pros.

Rawlings gloves are used by more major league players than all other brands combined.

And last year, Rawlings/Adirondack Pro Ring® bats were the preferred choice in the World Series.

Rawlings continues to supply the baseballs used in every Major League, All-Star and World Series game.

And in 1987, Rawlings became the "Official Uniform Supplier" to Major League Baseball. Plus the "Exclusive Licensee" of authentic and replica uniforms.

Now more than ever, Rawlings truly is "The Mark of a Pro!"®

So look for the famous Rawlings trademark on our complete line of officially licensed Major League Baseball products.*

Visit your nearest authorized Rawlings Sporting Goods dealer soon. Or head for the souvenir stand now.

It's one thing the pros see eye-to-eye on.

Even with the umpires.

Rawlings®

A FIGGIE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL®

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*There are 16 Rawlings trademarks in this photo.

OFF THE FIELD

Straw

Gary and attorney Bill Shea, the man for whom the ballpark is named.

(UPI Photo)

A.J. ADVERTISING, INC. ***Pro Sport Promotions***
111 Kinderkamack Road, Emerson, N.J. 07630 (201) 265-2600

Proudly provides the following items for 1987

Special Promotions:

- ***Custom Designed Sports Bags***
- ***Team Jerseys***
- ***Umbrellas***
- ***Wallets***
- ***Barbecue Aprons***
- ***Cooler Bags***
- ***Seat Cushions . . . and more Imported and Domestic***

LADY METS CLUB

The Lady Mets Club, one of our longest running fan club organizations, combines an interest in Mets baseball with the opportunity to contribute to charitable organizations. The Lady Mets sponsor ballgame outings throughout the season and last year made a weekend trip to Philadelphia in September. The Annual Christmas Giving Party of 1986 raised funds which were donated to the Queens Lighthouse For The Blind. Toys were presented to "No Small Affair", an organization servicing underprivileged, retarded and abused children.

1987 Mets Ticket and Seating Information

In person

Advance Ticket Window, **Shea Stadium**, 126th Street and Roosevelt Avenue, Flushing, New York 11368 (near Gate D). Monday through Friday 8:00 to 6:00, Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays 9:00 to 5:00. Phone (718) 507-TIXX. **Ticketron.** All outlets.

GROUP ORDERS

For Community, Civic, Social, Church, Booster Club and other Groups, send ticket orders to: N.Y. Mets Group Sales Department, Shea Stadium, Flushing, New York 11368. Phone (718) 507-1234.

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Available for all occasions from Mets Ticket Dept., Shea Stadium, Flushing, New York 11368. Phone: (718) 507-TIXX.

By phone

Teletron telephone credit card reservations:

New York	(212) 947-5850
Long Island	(516) 794-2560
Westchester	(914) 681-0365
New Jersey	(201) 343-4200
Conn. & Albany	(800) 922-2030

Charge Mets' tickets on your MasterCard, VISA or American Express credit card.

1987 HOME GAME TICKET PRICES

Upper Deck Box	$8.50
Loge & Mezz. Reserved	$8.50
Upper Deck Reserved	$6.00
Picnic Area (Groups of 100 or more)	$8.00
Sr. Citizen (Day of Game Only)	$1.00

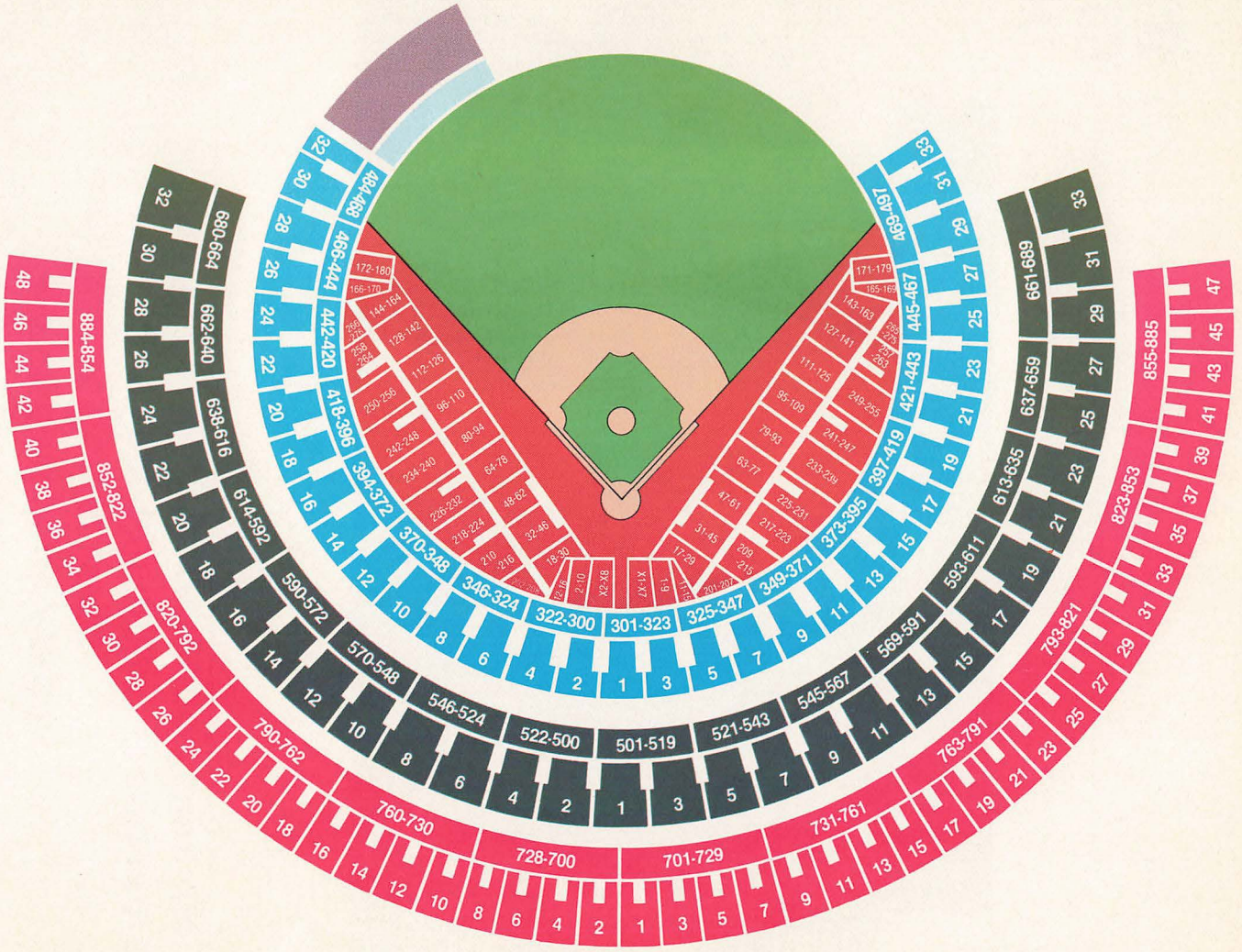
(Including N.Y. State Sales Tax)

By mail

Specify date of game or games and the NUMBER and PRICE of tickets desired. Make a check or money order payable to **NEW YORK METS.** Please do not send cash or stamps. Add **$1.00** postage and handling charges. Mail to Mets Ticket Dept., Shea Stadium, Flushing, N.Y. 11368. You may ORDER NOW BY MAIL for any Mets home games as far as you like. Tickets will be mailed well in advance of the games specified.

TIME OF GAMES—1987

Day Game	1:35
Doubleheader	1:05
TwiNight	5:35
Night Game	7:35
except Saturday	7:05



BRING IT HOME

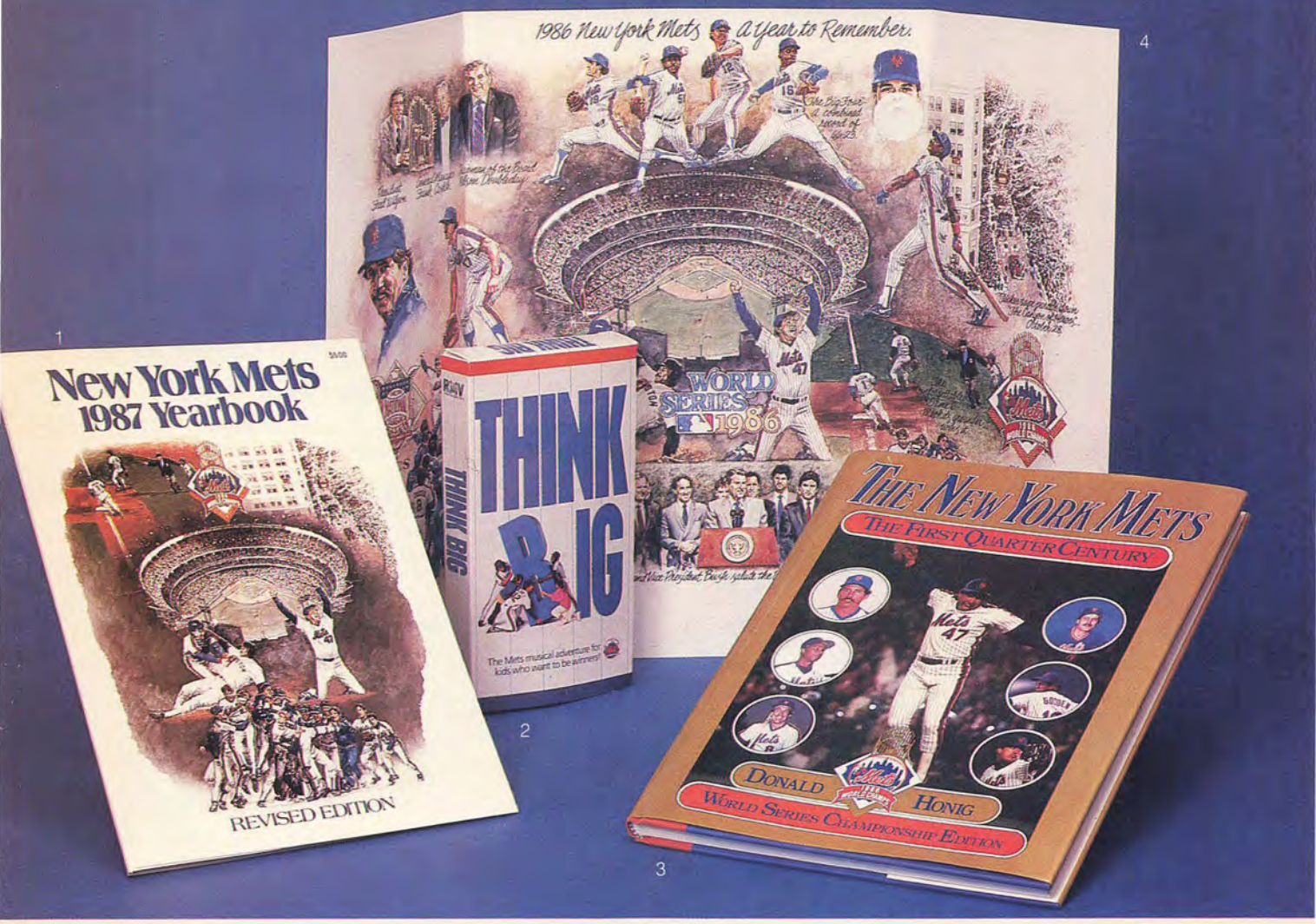
With brand-new New York Mets championship merchandise

1. 1987 Mets Yearbook (Revised Edition)
   Is now available, featuring brand new cover art by noted sports artist John Martin.

2. "Think Big" Kids Video
   Gary Carter, Mookie Wilson and Roger McDowell star in a new music video that will appeal to fans of all ages.

3. "The New York Mets" by Donald Honig (World Championship Edition)
   Now totally revised and updated to include the 1986 World Championshp season.

4. "A Year To Remember" Print (Limited edition)
   Artist John Martin captures the key men and moments from the 1986 World Championship season in this full color print, suitable for framing.



ORDER FORM

Item No.	Quantity	Price	Shipping & handling *	TOTAL
1		$5.00	$2.00	
2	VHS BETA	$19.95	$3.95	
3		$22.50	$3.95	
4		$6.95	included in price	

* each item

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Please check one:
Charge my ☐ MasterCard or ☐ VISA or call 1-800-THE METS
Account number _____ expires _____
month/year

☐ I enclose my check or money order (Make payable to N.Y. Mets)
New Jersey residents please add 6% sales tax.

MAIL YOUR ORDER TO: **House of Hibbert**
Trenton, New Jersey 08651

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

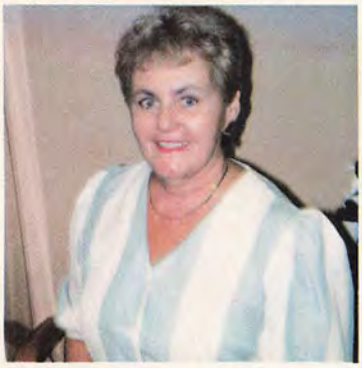
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Offer good in U.S.A. while supplies last. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.
Offer expires October 31, 1987.

THE TEAM BEHIND THE TEAM

Director of Public Relations: Jay Horwitz

Asst. Director of P.R.: Dennis D'Agostino; Patricia Kirshey



Executive Assistant to the General Manager: Jean Coen

Laura Maier; *Director of Broadcasting* Mike Ryan

Director of Marketing: Drew Sheinman

Director of Diamond View Suites: Bob O'Hara

DSI Renovations: Charles Adler, Kathy Cannon, Modesto Villar.

Stadium Manager: John McCarthy

Minor Leagues and Scouting: Standing: Director of Scouting Roland Johnson, Maureen Ardiff, Administrative Assistant John Barr. *Seated:* Director of Minor League Operations Steve Schryver, Maria Shewark

Sales: Standing: Christa Caruso, Phil Bernstein, Lisa Verde. *Seated:* Liz Greco, Director of Sales Randye Ringler, Jennifer Sitler

Community Relations: Juan Alicea, *Director of Amateur Baseball Relations:* Tommy Holmes

Promotions: Promotions Administrator Jim Plummer, Michele Marano, *Promotions Director* Mike Miller

Special Services: Manager of Fan Relations Patti Sarano, Tod Tillotson, Rita Miller.

Administrative Personnel: Clockwise from top: Jackie Pamlanye (to Mr. Harazin), Michele Kremberg (to Mr. Mandt), Frances Urciuoli (to Mr. Richman), Jane Choquette (to Mr. O'Shaughnessy)

Switchboard: Ethel Weller, *Head Switchboard Operator:* Pat McLaughlin

Ticket Office: Front Row (L to R): Season Ticket Manager Marie Melluso, Danny DeMato, Nicolina Petrizzo, Ann Campanaro. *Middle Row:* Karen Tenreiro, Eileen Palese, Rose Williams, Therese Murphy, Evelyn Liantonio. *Back Row:* Vicki Del Rossi, Debra Roca, Toni Giordano, Vio Mocuta, Natalie Welch, John Giglio

Head Groundskeeper: Pete Flynn

P.A. Announcer: Jack Franchetti

Accounting: Standing: Tom Doyle, Mike Spinelli, Paul Macchia, Angela Casturani, Pasquale Albanese, Russ Richardson. *Seated:* Controller Bill Grundel, Lisa Werner, Marie Fernandez.

THE NEW WINTER HOME: PORT ST. LUCIE

Beginning in the Spring of 1988, the New York Mets will move their training headquarters to a new location in Florida: St. Lucie West, a new town now taking shape along the Treasure Coast, about 50 miles north of Palm Beach. Situated between I-95 and Florida's Turnpike, the town is just a coastal breeze from the ocean in what is one of the fastest growing regions in the state, known for its exceptional fishing and boating and its beautiful beaches.

Destined to be the most sophisticated complex in major league baseball, the $9 million training center will include a 7,000-set stadium and two clubhouses: one for the world-champion Mets and another for their minor leagues. There will be five and one-half practice fields, parking for 3,000 cars and a nearby hotel complex for players and fans. According to Frank Cashen, Mets general manager, it will be "a brand new stadium with state-of-the-art everything."

St. Lucie West occupies 7.2 square miles of some of the most preferred real estate in Florida. It is being created by the Thos. J. White Development Corporation, since 1917 a pioneer in residential, industrial and mixed use development.

St. Lucie West will be a completely self-contained community, with residential, recreational, commercial and educational areas. Plans include 15,000 homes for more than 35,000 people in 10 distinctive neighborhoods; four golf courses and a country club; a 1.24 million-square foot regional mall; a 440-acre commerce/industrial park; a 78-acre medical center; a $30 million, 90-acre joint campus for Miami-based Barry University and Indian River Community College; a 100-acre sports complex which will soon welcome the New York Mets. The new town of St. Lucie West is expected to take more than a decade to complete.

Construction is underway for the 1988 New York Mets training stadium.

Here's to a Bright Future.

For major-league baseball and you. In just a few months, the New York Mets will make St. Lucie West their new Florida home. You can do the same. A 7.2-square mile town now taking shape on Florida's Treasure Coast, St. Lucie West will offer a spring training complex of world-championship caliber, with residential, recreational, commercial, and educational opportunities to match.

Take a step into the future with us.

...

St. Lucie West

2500 S.E. Midport Road, Suite 140
Port St. Lucie, Florida 33452 (305) 335-7000

A new town by Thos. J. White Development Corporation
Home of the NY Mets

This advertisement is not an offering. The complete offering terms for the Homeowners Association are contained in an offering plan available from the sponsor. The Attorney General of the State of New York has not passed on or endorsed the terms of the offering.

1987 NEW YORK METS

FRONT ROW (*L to R*): Trainer Steve Garland, Coaches Mel Stottlemyre, Bill Robinson, Vern Hoscheit, Sam Perlozzo, Bud Harrelson, Assistant Trainer Bob Sikes, Trainer Emeritus Tom McKenna **SECOND ROW:** Dwight Gooden, Jesse Orosco, Mookie Wilson, Sid Fernandez, Wally Backman, Manager Davey Johnson, Keith Hernandez, Darryl Strawberry, Gary Carter, Ron Darling, Roger McDowell, Doug Sisk. **THIRD ROW:** Assistant to the General Manager and Travel Director Arthur Richman, Lee Mazzilli, Kevin McReynolds, Lenny Dykstra, Bob Ojeda, Rick Aguilera, Rafael Santana, Howard Johnson, Ed Hearn, Tim Teufel, Rick Anderson, Equipment Manager Charlie Samuels. **FOURTH ROW:** Assistant Equipment Manager John Rufino, Reggie Dobie, John Gibbons, Charlie Corbell, Clint Hurdle, John Mitchell, Randy Myers, Gene Walter, Barry Lyons, Kevin Elster, Dave Magadan, Clubhouse Assistant Vinnie Greco. **FIFTH ROW:** Jose Bautista, Terry Blocker, Marcus Lawton, Keith Miller, Dave West, Terry Leach, Tom McCarthy, Brian Givens, Bob Buchanan, Tom Burns, Mark Carreon, Al Pedrique, Zoilo Sanchez, Greg Olson.

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Only brewing and aging the costlier, natural way... from water, barley malt,
cereal grains, hops and yeast... could produce smooth & refreshing Busch® Beer

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